

**MILITARY**

Air Force saw record number of suicides in '19
Page 6

MILITARY

Trump cancels Obama policy on land mines
Page 3

FACES

Singer-songwriter Trainor embraces hip-hop, EDM on album 'Treat Myself'
Page 14



Ravens QB Jackson is unanimous MVP pick » Back page

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50¢/Free to Deployed Areas

IRAQ



Selection rejection

Protesters take to streets, voice displeasure with PM-designate picked by ruling elites

BY SAMYA KULLAB
Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Hundreds of anti-government demonstrators in Iraq rejected on Sunday the new prime minister-designate who recently was nominated by rival government factions. Demonstrators have long swore

they would not accept a candidate chosen by Iraq's establishment.

Meanwhile, an influential Shiite cleric also told his followers, who are camped out among protesters in the capital and the country's south, to unblock roads and to restore normalcy.

Saturday's selection of former Communications Min-

ister Mohammed Allawi, 66, to replace outgoing Prime Minister Adel Abdul-Mahdi was the product of many backroom talks over months between rival parties, ending a political stalemate.

Hundreds of students voiced their rejection of Allawi

SEE SELECTION ON PAGE 6

Above: An anti-government demonstrator jumps over burning tires while protesting against Prime Minister-designate Mohammed Allawi in Najaf, Iraq, on Sunday.

HADI MIZBA/AP

Pentagon approves military bases for coronavirus quarantine

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Defense Secretary Mark Esper on Saturday approved a request from the Department of Health and Human Services for the possible use of military facilities to accommodate 1,000 people who may have to be quarantined upon arrival due to a new virus.

APPROVED FOR USE

- Fort Carson, Colo.
- Travis Air Force Base, Calif.
- Lackland Air Force Base, Texas
- Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif.

SOURCE: The Associated Press

A Defense Department statement said HHS officials requested the use of several facilities capable of housing at least 250 people in individual rooms through Feb. 29. HHS would be responsible for all care, transportation and security of the evacuees, according to the statement.

The viral outbreak began in China,

where the death toll rose above 300 this weekend. More than 14,000 people have been infected with the coronavirus globally, the vast majority of them on the Chinese mainland.

An order signed on Friday by President Donald Trump temporarily bars

SEE QUARANTINE ON PAGE 8

BUSINESS/WEATHER

Atari to open gaming resorts in US

Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — Atari, the arcade game company that ushered in the gaming revolution in the 1980s, is opening eight video game-themed hotels across the United States, including ones in Las Vegas and Phoenix.

The company said this week that it will break ground on its first hotel later this year in Phoenix, as it seeks to create a unique lodging experience combining the

brand with a video game-themed destination.

"Atari Hotels level up hotel entertainment with fully immersive experiences for every age and gaming ability, including the latest in VR and AR (Virtual and Augmented Reality)," the company said in a statement. "Select hotels will also feature state-of-the-art venues and studios to accommodate esports events."

"We are thrilled to partner with GSD Group and True North

Studio to build the first-ever Atari branded hotels across the United States. Together we'll build a space that will be much more than just a place to stay," Fred Chesnais, CEO of Atari, said in a statement.

In addition to Las Vegas and Phoenix, new hotels are planned in Denver, Chicago, Austin, Texas, Seattle, San Francisco and San Jose, Calif., the company said. Timeline for hotels other than Phoenix were not released.

MONDAY IN THE MIDDLE EAST



MONDAY IN EUROPE



TODAY IN STRIPES

American Roundup	11
Classified	13
Comics	15
Crossword	15
Faces	14
Opinion	16
Sports	17-24

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PCSing? STARS AND STRIPES. RELOCATION GUIDE

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of Stars and Stripes AND online daily at
www.stripes.com/relo

EXCHANGE RATES

	Military rate	Switzerland (Franc).....	0.9634
Brunswick (Euro).....	\$1.1337	Thailand (Baht).....	31.23
Dollar buys (Feb. 3).....	\$0.9221	Turkey (Lira).....	5.9809
British pound (Feb. 3).....	\$1.35	(More exchange rates are those	available to customers at military banking
Japanese yen (Feb. 3).....	106.00	facilities in the country of issuance	for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the
South Korean won (Feb. 3).....	1,156.00	United Kingdom and the Netherlands. For	nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e.,
		those with your local military banking	purchasing British pounds in Germany),
Bahrain (Dinar).....	0.3769	facility, Commercial rates are bank	rates provided for reference when buying
British pound.....	\$1.32	currency. All figures are foreign currencies	to U.S. dollars, except for the euro, which
China (Yuan).....	2.53	is represented in dollars-to-euro, and	the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)
Denmark (Krone).....	6.7391		
Egypt (Pound).....	15.7389		
	\$1.1089/0.9218		
Hong Kong (Dollar).....	7.6785		
Hungary (Forint).....	304.14		
Iceland (Icelandic).....	24.48		
Japan (Yen).....	108.37		
Kuwait (Dinar).....	0.3039		
Norway (Krone).....	9.1886		
Poland (Zloty).....	4.90		
Qatar (Riyal).....	3.87		
Saudi Arabia (Riyal).....	3.7518		
Singapore (Dollar).....	1.3648		
South Korea (Won).....	1,197.80		

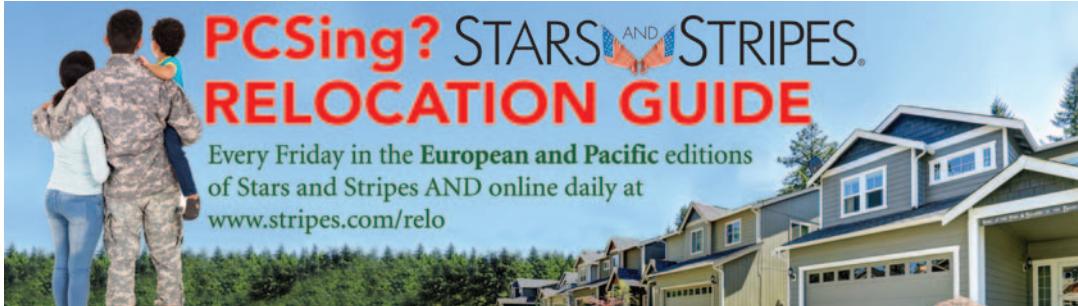
INTEREST RATES

Principal (Euro).....	4.75
Discount rate.....	2.25
Federal funds market rate.....	1.55
3-month bill.....	1.52
30-year bond.....	2.01

TUESDAY IN THE PACIFIC



The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 2nd Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.



PACIFIC

Trump authorizes wider use of land mines

BY CAITLIN M. KENNEY
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump on Friday canceled a 2014 policy by former President Barack Obama that restricted the use of anti-personnel land mines to the Korean Peninsula.

"The Department of Defense has determined that restrictions imposed on American forces by the Obama administration's policy could place them at a severe disadvantage during a conflict against our adversaries. The president is unwilling to accept this risk to our troops," the White House said in a statement.

The policy was changed to meet the demands of the National Defense Strategy, which has refocused the military on the challenges of near-peer adversaries such as China and Russia and away from counterterrorism operations.

The change would authorize only combatant commanders in "exceptional circumstances" — without specifying what those circumstances could be — to use "advanced, non-persistent" land mines" that are designed to reduce unintended harm to civilians and allies. The commanders would still need approval from the defense secretary to use land mines.

Non-persistent land mines are described in the new Pentagon policy as ones that are designed to self-destruct in 30 days or less after they are placed. Unlike older persistent land mines, these mines would not be active in the ground long after a conflict is over and could cause harm to civilians. The policy also authorizes the military to evaluate acquiring "on/off" systems that can be remotely activated to deal with threats and then deactivated

when the threat is over.

In a Pentagon fact sheet on the policy, it states the reliability of U.S. land mines with self-destruct and self-deactivate safety features is "very high," with a 6 in 1 million chance of a land mine being active longer than intended.

"We can go back to giving our soldiers, Marines this capability which may be decisive in a future conflict. And at the same time be absolutely committed to reducing and limiting civilian casualties. Then why wouldn't we do that?" Vic Mercado said Friday to reporters at the Pentagon. He is performing the duties of assistant secretary of defense for strategy, plans, and capabilities.

Combatant commanders are given the flexibility to plan the use of land mines if it involves situations that put military personnel in harm's way, including a major conflict, according to Mercado. With the old policy, land mines were only used on the Korean Peninsula and other commanders could not plan to use them as a deterrent against an enemy — a concern during planning for greater power conflicts.

"When you talk about risk and our disadvantage before, going against a near-peer power and we do not allow our forces, our commanders to employ a capability when they do? And they have thousands" of land mines, he said. "Looking forward, we are in a much better situation in relation to the adversaries."

But Mercado also does not see land mines being used now in places such as Afghanistan or Syria. He would not provide a specific example of a scenario in which a combatant commander would request to use land mines. He said if forces were outnumbered, they could equalize their chances by using land mines and get reinforcements to come to



CEDRIC HALLER/U.S. Marine Corps

Republic of Korea Marines demonstrate a minesweeping technique for U.S. Marines on April 21 during Korean Marine Exchange Program 14-6 in Pohang, South Korea. President Donald Trump has removed a policy that restricted the use of land mines on the Korean Peninsula.

them.

Defense Secretary Mark Esper emphasized earlier Friday that land mines are an important tool for commanders to use on the battlefield and for the protection of troops.

"At the end of the day, we want to make sure that we have all the tools in our toolkit that are legally available and effective to ensure our success and to ensure the protection of our soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines," Esper told reporters.

The new policy was developed during former Defense Secretary Jim Mattis' tenure, Esper said.

The Obama administration had committed to destroying U.S. stockpiles of land mines no longer

needed for the defense of South Korea. It sought to move the United States toward eventually becoming a party to the 1997 Ottawa Convention, an international agreement that banned the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of anti-personnel land mines.

Humanitarian organizations such as Human Rights Watch and the International Committee of the Red Cross have petitioned countries to prohibit the use of land mines because they are an indiscriminate weapon of war that can cause serious injury and death long after a conflict has concluded. For example in Afghanistan, efforts have been underway by private organizations for decades to remove the mil-

lions of land mines in the country, most of them left behind by Soviet and Soviet-backed forces in the 1980s and early 1990s, according to Human Rights Watch.

Esper made assurances that the new policy would consider the nature of land mines and their potential to harm civilians outside of war.

"In everything we do, we also want to make sure that these instruments, in this case, land mines, also take into account both the safety of employment and the safety to civilians and others after a conflict," he said.

The Associated Press contributed to this story.
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DOD: S. Korea-based troops face 'low risk' of new coronavirus

BY KIM GAMEL
Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea — The U.S. military imposed a two-week self-quarantine for troops who recently visited China on Sunday but said the overall risk of a new respiratory virus for American forces in South Korea remained low.

The death toll from the novel coronavirus rose to more than 300 — most in China — with thousands of infections reported there and several other countries, including South Korea and the United States.

The South announced three new confirmed cases on Sunday, raising its total to 15.

U.S. Forces Korea has urged people to follow guidelines from the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention, which include washing hands thoroughly and avoiding close contact with people who display symptoms.

The self-quarantine applies to service members who have returned to South Korea after traveling to mainland China or after Jan. 19, regardless of whether

'We must do our best to prevent the spread or it will have a significant impact on our 'Fight Tonight' readiness!'

Gen. Robert Abrams
USFK commander

they have symptoms, USFK said in a press release.

Health authorities say infected people usually develop symptoms — which are similar to those with a cold or the flu — within a two-week incubation period.

It's believed that the coronavirus is spread through droplets when somebody who is infected coughs or sneezes.

"USFK continues to stress the overall risk to USFK personnel remains low," the command said. "The quarantine measures implemented are out of an abundance of caution to mitigate risk to the USFK population."

Family members, American and South Korean civilian employees and United Nations Command military also were "highly encouraged" to comply, it said.

No USFK personnel in South Korea have recently been to Wuhan, where the virus originated, or the surrounding Hubei province, it said.

On Friday, the State Department warned Americans to avoid all travel to China. The World Health Organization and the U.S. government have both designated the outbreak a public health emergency.

USFK, which commands some 28,500 American troops stationed on the divided peninsula, also launched a new website on Saturday dedicated to offering advice and monitoring the situation.

USFK commander Gen. Robert Abrams urged people to maintain good hygiene practices and go to the doctor if they display symptoms.

"More importantly, do not go to work

or school. Stay at your home or in the barracks while you are [in] recovery," he said in a statement on the website. "We must do our best to prevent the spread or it will have a significant impact on our 'Fight Tonight' readiness!"

He also promised the situation was being monitored "very closely, around the clock."

Concern has been rising since the coronavirus was first reported in Wuhan, an industrial city of 11 million that has been locked down in an effort to keep it from spreading.

South Korea reported three new cases on Sunday, raising its total to 15.

The South also completed the evacuation of some 700 of its citizens from Wuhan on Saturday. They will be quarantined for two weeks.

North Korea, which was one of the first countries to shut its borders to visitors from China because of the outbreak, sent a letter to Beijing offering condolences and aid.

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MILITARY

Army developing image-boosting binoculars

By J.P. LAWRENCE
Stars and Stripes

The Army is developing technology that will show faces in striking detail from a distance and immediately match them to identify databases — even in the dark.

The advanced facial recognition technology could aid soldiers in the field, but comes with some growing cybersecurity challenges, researchers and analysts said.

An Army prototype can boost image quality from thermal infrared cameras, so a soldier can identify faces at night through handheld binoculars from as far as 500 yards away, said Sean Hu, an electronics engineer for the U.S. Army Research Laboratory.

A computer checks the face and sends a notification if it matches a person on a watchlist, Hu said.

The technology, first announced in 2018, is in the experimental testing phase. The binoculars could enter field testing in just a few years, Hu said.

"We are working with industry partners to make small handheld binoculars with sensors with the capacity to identify



The left photo is a thermal image of a man's face at night; the center image is the man's face as generated by the binoculars, and the right image is taken with a traditional camera.

SEAN HU/U.S. Army Research Laboratory

matches in real-time at nighttime," Hu said by phone Wednesday.

Thermal infrared cameras, widely used within the military, don't need visible light as they capture heat signatures. However, their images appear blurrier and at lower resolution than from traditional cameras, Hu said.

The prototype binoculars and an attached laptop translate these thermal images into high-resolution so soldiers can see people's eyes, nose and mouth in the dark.

But as the Army develops increasingly advanced technology, its enemies are also getting better at hacking into these systems, researchers said.

Hackers can cripple facial and object recognition systems during development,

said MaryAnne Fields, program manager for intelligent systems at the Army Research Office.

The Army recently funded work by researchers at Duke University on stopping this type of "backdoor" attack, a statement said.

Fields used the example of a vandal and a stop sign. If a vandal puts black tape over a stop sign, humans know enough to recognize it's still a stop sign. But a machine can be taught to learn the wrong thing. A hacker could add "triggers" to training images to teach the machine that the altered stop sign is a speed limit sign.

Similar false triggers in a facial recognition software's code could lead to it misidentifying anyone wearing a certain hat or sunglasses.

"These technologies are coming," Fields said. "It's up to us to make sure that these technologies ... won't make catastrophic mistakes."

Identifying targets at night through binoculars could be just the beginning of what the technology can do, said Peter W. Singer, senior fellow at New America, a Washington-based think tank.

He noted use of facial recognition technologies by the Chinese government, which is believed to be using it for surveillance on its citizens. Police departments in the U.S. and U.K. are also interested in using facial recognition.

The increasing use of facial recognition by governments raises ethical concerns about privacy rights and legal questions, such as what happens when errors in code lead to the wrong person getting arrested or killed, said Singer, author of an upcoming book on how AI will affect war.

"Something that not even George Orwell could have imagined is ahead of us," Singer said.

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Vilseck facility offers 24-hour entertainment

By IMMANUEL JOHNSON
Stars and Stripes

VILSECK, Germany — Soldiers at Rose Barracks in the sleepy German town of Vilseck have a new place to chill with the opening Friday of an on-base facility offering free Wi-Fi, TVs, games and relaxation.

Housed in what used to be the Stryker dining facility, the new space, called Cavalry Corner, is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and "provides that opportunity for soldiers to just take a break from those hectic day-to-day activities, to decompress," said Julian Coates of the American Red Cross at the grand opening.

The Red Cross sponsors Cavalry Corner, along with telecommuni-

cations provider TKS, POCO furniture stores, the USO and U.S. Army Garrison Bavaria.

The center also can be used to hold group functions.

"My soldiers say it's a great place to hang out, especially since this unit is so isolated," said Staff Sgt. Trevor Janak, of the 2nd Cavalry Regiment's Iron Troop, 3rd Squadron.

"It gives them another place to use their time wisely instead of getting bored or making poor choices that result in things like a DUI,"

Family members and civilians with base access can also use Cavalry Corner, located in Building 603 at Rose Barracks.

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Soldiers have some food in the relaxation area in the Cavalry Corner, which opened Friday in Rose Barracks, Vilseck, Germany.

IMMANUEL JOHNSON/Stars and Stripes

Drills over Hawaii preview Alaska's future as mecca for fighter jets

By WYATT OLSON
Stars and Stripes

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii — In April, Eielson Air Force Base in Alaska will receive its first three F-35A Lightning IIs. By the end of next year, the 35th Fighter Wing there will be flying 54 of the advanced stealth fighters in two squadrons.

If you want to know how that's going to change the Alaskan skies, you needed only look upward in Hawaii last week.

"A good snapshot is what I flew this morning," said Col. Benjamin Bishop, the 35th's commander, during an interview Thursday at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Bishop led a group of four F-16s and, joined by four other F-16s and four F-22s, posing as enemy adversaries in an Aloha Sentry training drill. The opposing "good guys" were F-22s from the Hawaii Air

National Guard and F-35s from Luke Air Force Base, Ariz.

"That's going to be daily operations at Eielson Air Force Base once F-35s are there," Bishop said. "We're going to be training regularly, habitually, with F-22s. Our F-16 squadron is going to remain there as the two F-35 squadrons come in."

He now returns to Eielson, where \$500 million of infrastructure improvements are underway to make way for the F-35s and about 1,300 additional airmen and their families set to arrive by the end of next year. That's almost double the 750 airmen who were stationed there when the Air Force announced its decision in April 2016 that Eielson would host the service's first operational overseas F-35As.

"We don't see any problems delivering the aircraft and operating the aircraft because of infrastructure," Bishop said.

The combination of two squadrons of F-

22 fighters based at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson in Anchorage and the full fleet of F-35As will make Alaska home to more fifth-generation fighters than anywhere else in the world, top Air Force officials have said.

Viewed from atop the globe, Alaska is "in the center of every major theater in the northern hemisphere," Bishop said.

From Eielson, the F-35 — with tanker support — can in one sortie cover most of the area under the U.S. European and Indo-Pacific commands, he said.

And the Arctic itself is of growing strategic interest to the United States as climate change melts away ice and exposes once difficult to reach natural resources, resulting in greater competition among nations to control the realm.

The Defense Department's Arctic strategy issued last year declared that American armed forces "must be able to quickly identify

threats in the Arctic, respond promptly and effectively to those threats, and shape the security environment to mitigate the prospect of those threats in the future."

The F-35s are essential in achieving that goal.

"As the northernmost fighter wing in the Department of Defense, the 35th has the unique ability to operate in the Arctic and become familiar with what it takes to operate in the Arctic," Bishop said. "Being able to project air power from there is an exciting opportunity."

Bishop will witness the next step in April as Eielson's 356th Fighter Squadron welcomes its first F-35s into the fold. His two-year command is up this summer, however, so he won't be hand at year's end when the squadron's full complement is expected to be in place.

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PACIFIC

DODEA dress code riles up parents on Kadena air base

By MATTHEW M. BURKE
Stars and Stripes

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — A dress code imposed at a Defense Department middle school on Okinawa in August discriminates against female students, according to a complaint filed by parents with the Department of Education.

The complaint — filed Jan. 10 with the department's Office of Civil Rights — alleges gender discrimination at Ryukyu Middle School, a Department of Defense Education Action school at Kadena Air Base.

It seeks to remedy what six parents say is an outdated dress code, according to the complaint and the parents' attorney, Crista Kraics.

The complaint alleges that Principal Lee Ann Mik discriminated against female students by singling them out for their attire and removing them from class. The parents deemed their chil-

dren's attire "appropriate."

Girls were singled out for wearing loose athletic pants with no zipper while boys were permitted to wear basketball shorts, according to the complaint. Girls were also criticized for shirts that weren't long enough and for showing "collar bone."

The complaint says the students were put before a variety of administrators and teachers who judged their clothing, were subjected to comments from Mik and others and were sometimes forced to change into oversized lost-and-found items, all without parental notification.

Kraics said the actions cultivated an atmosphere of fear in which female students were afraid to go to school because they were worried about being singled out.

The complaint also said that in 2017 then-vice principal Mik held a meeting with female students at which she said if "the female children did not want boys to sexually harass them, then they should

not dress like they did, or words to that effect."

Mik did not respond to a Jan. 21 email from Stars and Stripes requesting comment.

DODEA officials said they investigated the initial complaint in September and substantiated nearly all the parents' allegations, according to a copy of their investigative report. They then established an interim gender-neutral dress code policy while a working group studies reform.

"I think [Pacific South Superintendent Jim Journey and] the regional director [Lois Rapp] were clear in their responses to [Kraics] that we take this seriously and that we'll address infractions," DODEA spokesman Frank O'Gara told Stars and Stripes by phone Jan. 16. "Now, we're not going to communicate those publicly, but what we have communicated publicly is that we're going to change that policy."

The issue began with the start of the new school year on Aug. 26,



Michelle Christensen

The daughters of Ryukyu Middle School parent Michelle Christensen, on Sept. 5, 2019, who said the child on the left was admonished by school officials for wearing pants without a zipper.

Kraics said. Parents and teachers almost immediately expressed concerns to administrators, but the policy was kept intact, according to internal school emails obtained by Kraics and shared with Stars and Stripes.

On Sept. 27, Kraics sent a complaint to Rapp, the Pacific director for student excellence. Rapp forwarded it to Journey who put the interim policy in place but placed discretion over dress codes back in Mik's hands, Kraics said.

The mother of two female

Ryukyu Middle School students, Michelle Christensen, said her daughters no longer feel safe at school and she has noticed personality changes. She asked that her daughters not be named.

"It's had a really negative impact on [my daughters]," Christensen said. "[One daughter] used to be a lot happier. I think we're counting the hours until we leave Okinawa."

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New power plant in Japan can support Navy's electric destroyers

By SETH ROBSON
Stars and Stripes

A 4,160-volt power plant providing dockside energy to the newly arrived amphibious assault ship USS America at Sasebo Naval Base in Japan can also support the Zumwalt class of electric stealth destroyers, according to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The \$14.5 million Nippo Corp.-built plant, which underwent a series of tests last year, was officially opened Dec. 19 on Sasebo's Juliet Wharf by the Navy, shortly after the 844-foot America dropped anchor in its new homeport, according to Sasebo resident engineer Donald George.

In port, most Navy warships receive electricity from 480-volt dockside power plants that require sailors to connect up to a dozen cables, George said in a telephone interview Tuesday.

The America, along with newer Wasp-class amphibious ships, aircraft carriers and Zumwalt-class destroyers can hook up to 4,160-volt power, which requires half the number of cables, he said.

The Navy commissioned the USS Lyndon B. Johnson, the last of three Zumwalt-class destroyers, last April. The service had planned to put 32 of the electric stealth destroyers to sea but trimmed the number after the cost of each vessel blew up to \$7.8 billion, according to Popular Mechanics magazine.

The ships have a stealth design, state-of-the-art electric propulsion systems and wave-piercing hulls, according to the Navy.

The U.S. military has sent many of its most modern weap-



HOGLY HERLINE/U.S. NAVY

The USS Zumwalt pulls into Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, on April 2. A new high-voltage power plant at Sasebo Naval Base in Japan will be able to support the Navy's Zumwalt class destroyers.

ons systems to Japan to include the America, Marine Corps F-35B stealth fighters and Air Force CV-22 Osprey aircraft but hasn't deployed the new destroyers there yet.

"The U.S. Navy continually monitors force readiness and capabilities to provide the most robust, capable maritime force possible," Pacific Fleet spokesman Lt. James Adams said in an email Thursday. "Long range planners constantly evaluate whether ships, aircraft, facilities, and equipment are being used effectively and efficiently."

He said the Japanese government and public are informed about any significant changes to U.S. military force structure in Japan.

Whatever happens to the Zumwalt-class warships, the Navy will likely rely more on electric propulsion systems over time, Arizona

State University engineering professor Braden Allenby said in an email Friday.

The ships use gas turbines to produce electricity, which is then used to power electric motors for propulsion, as well as provide substantial power for other shipboard functions, Allenby said.

"This means that many of the components required by mechan-

ical drive systems, such as complex gearboxes and clutches, are no longer required," he said.

The electricity generated can also be used to power weapons systems, including those that might be installed on warships in the future, he said.

"The Navy is building in power and weight margins into its newest platforms so that they can more readily accommodate new sensors and weapons as they become available," Colleen O'Rourke, a Naval Sea Systems Command spokeswoman, said in an email Friday.

If the electric warships arrive in Japan, they will have plenty of power available at Sasebo.

The high voltage flowing through cables attached to the new Sasebo plant means sailors take extra precautions when they're hooking up ships, George said.

The plant encompasses three-quarters of an acre of wharf space and houses a pair of 7.5-megawatt transformers that convert electricity from off base, he said.

Similar power plants operate at Yokosuka Naval Base in Japan

as well as San Diego and Norfolk, Va., George said.

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MILITARY

Air Force saw record suicide rate in 2019

By JENNIFER SVAN
Stars and Stripes

The Air Force had 137 suspected suicides last year, the highest number since the service began tracking suicide in 2008, officials said Friday.

The 2019 figure includes active-duty, reserve, guard and Air Force civilians and compares to 103 suicides across the service in 2018 — a 33% increase.

The Air Force released the statistics Friday after the Air Force amn/ncn/snc Facebook page published what appeared to be internal Air Force slides revealing the service had 136 suicides last year, including 84 suspected suicides among active-duty airmen.

An Air Force official at the Pentagon confirmed Friday the slides posted on the page were accurate at the time they were created.

The new number of 137 suicides can be attributed to fluctuations as suspected suicides are confirmed, the official said. The number won't be finalized until the Pentagon releases its official report on suicide for each branch of the military later this year.

The Air Force has been wrestling with suicide in the ranks for much of 2019, a year that started off with 11 airmen and Air Force civilians dying in the first four weeks.

In August, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David Goldfein called

for a "tactical pause" to address the spike in suicides, directing wing commanders to stop operations for a day and gather their airmen to talk about what's behind the rising rate.

Lt. Gen. Brian Kelly, Air Force deputy chief of staff for manpower, personnel and services, said Friday the service continues to pursue a range of immediate, mid-term and long-range suicide prevention initiatives. They are looking at connections between individuals, units and the Air Force, as well as services, policies and the environment, Kelly said. Other areas of focus include detecting risk in individuals and units and helping personnel and family members mitigate risk and increase resilience.

"Suicide is a difficult national problem without easily identifiable solutions that has the full attention of leadership," Kelly said in a statement.

Another slide posted on the Air Force amn/ncn/snc Facebook page noted that aircraft maintenance and security forces are consistently the career fields with the highest number of suicide deaths. Those career fields are among the largest in the Air Force, with more airmen who tend to be younger, male and familiar with lethal means, the slide said.

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people's lives," Abe told the troops in a televised sendoff ceremony at Yokosuka.

Sending warships to areas of military tension is a highly sensitive issue in Japan because its pacifist post-World War II constitution limits the use of force by the military strictly to self-defense. Abe has gradually expanded Japan's military role since he took office in late 2012.

Under the plan, the destroyer and some 200 Maritime Self-Defense Force troops will join a pair of P-3C reconnaissance aircraft that were operating in the same area from a base in Djibouti in the Horn of Africa.

The Abe government is expected to authorize troops to protect Japanese commercial ships in case of danger, a plan that has faced opposition from pacifist groups.

Over the years, U.S. officials



KHALID MOHAMMED/AP

Anti-government protesters chant slogans while holding posters of newly appointed Prime Minister designate Mohammed Allawi with Arabic that reads, "Rejected" during a demonstration in Tahrir Square, Baghdad on Sunday.

Selection: Many demonstrate against Iraq government pick for new prime minister

FROM FRONT PAGE

at rallies in Baghdad's central plazas and in southern Iraq. In Tahrir Square, the epicenter of the four-month anti-government protest movement, portraits of Allawi marked with a large "X" hung over tunnels and buildings.

"We don't want Allawi because he is a party member chosen by the parties," said Hadi Saffir, a protester in Tahrir. "We want an independent nominee."

Others were more diplomatic, said they would wait and see how Allawi would deliver on promises to hold early elections.

The influential cleric Muqtada al-Sadr asked his followers camped out in Tahrir and surrounding plazas to resume "day-to-day life" on Sunday by opening cut roads and ensure schools and government offices remained open, in a statement posted online. Al-Sadr, who supports Allawi's nomination, heads one of the political parties that garnered the most seats in parliament in the 2018 federal election.

Al-Sadr's followers returned to

the demonstration camps Friday after the cleric reversed his decision to stop supporting the protest movement.

Upon returning, al-Sadr's followers consolidated control of strategic areas in Tahrir Square, including key bridges leading to the fortified Green Zone, the seat of government. Significantly, they also moved into a skeletal high-rise building nicknamed the "Turkish Restaurant," which offers a strategic lookout over the protests.

Members of al-Sadr's militia group, known for donning blue caps on the street, were seen managing checkpoints near the high-rise on Sunday. The building had been stripped of portraits paying tribute to those killed under fire from security forces. An image of Grand Ayatollah al-Sistani, Iraq's most revered religious figure, remained, and a lone Iraqi flag fluttered on the rooftop.

Militiamen interviewed said they had come to clear the area of "trouble-makers" and drug-users. Iraqi officials and analysts con-

sidered the return of al-Sadr's supporters as means for the cleric to gain leverage amid the political deadlock prior to Allawi's selection.

Their return has exacerbated divisions between them and civil anti-government demonstrators who felt al-Sadr had betrayed them and the reformist aims of the movement for political gain.

Many protesters said al-Sadr's followers had threatened them to toe the cleric's line or leave the square.

"They will never mix with us," said Mariam Nael, 18, a protester. "We are here for our homeland, they are blindly following the tweet of one cleric."

Student demonstrations were also held in the southern city of Basra to reject Allawi's candidacy. Other protesters burned tires in the holy city of Najaf.

"We did not choose this person; we demanded certain qualifications," said Ahmed Ali, a protester in Basra. "Mohammed Allawi is rejected by the people, he does not have the qualities we demanded."

Japanese warship heads to Mideast to protect tankers

By MARI YAMAGUCHI
Associated Press

TOKYO — A Japanese warship departed Sunday for the Middle East to ensure the safety of the country's oil tankers in waters where tensions between the U.S. and Iran are high.

The destroyer Takanami with some 200 sailors left Japan's main naval base in Yokosuka, near Tokyo. Its main task is primarily to gather intelligence in the Gulf of Oman and nearby waters.

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe called the waters "a lifeline that supports the lives of the Japanese people." Thousands of Japanese ships ply the route every year, transporting 90% of the country's oil supply, he said.

"Your mission of information gathering is an extremely significant one that directly affects peo-

US targets leader of al-Qaida in Yemen

The Washington Post

The United States conducted an airstrike against the leader of al-Qaida's affiliate in Yemen, which is likely to have resulted in his death, according to people familiar with the matter.

The leader, Qassim al-Rimi, has been described as a possible heir to al-Qaida chief Ayman al-Zawahri, according to terrorism experts. His death would deal a significant blow to the terrorist organization, eliminating one of its most prominent members.

Over the years, U.S. officials

have said the Yemen branch was especially dangerous because of its ability to produce sophisticated bombs and its ambition to launch attacks against targets in the United States and Europe.

In the past, U.S. officials have announced successful strikes on top al-Qaida members only to learn later that they survived. While officials expressed confidence privately that Rimi was dead, they were reluctant to say so publicly.

But President Donald Trump on Saturday appeared to confirm the United States had killed Rimi,

retweeting an intelligence expert and a reporter who pointed to a targeted U.S. strike.

Officials familiar with the strike indicated it was carried out by the CIA and not the military. A spokesperson for the CIA declined to comment.

The White House declined to confirm the operation or comment further.

The strike took place last weekend, according to a U.S. official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity because the official was not authorized to speak for the record.

NATION

Advisers study impact of virus on economy

By JEFF STEIN
The Washington Post

White House economic advisers are studying the potential impact that the coronavirus scare could have on the U.S. economy, according to two people familiar with the internal review, as federal officials enact unprecedented travel restrictions amid the disease's spread in China.

The White House National Economic Council and the Council of Economic Advisers are jointly assessing both the potential short-term and long-term effects of the coronavirus, these officials said, with fears mounting over the virus's spread into the United States.

Administration officials stressed that the work was preliminary and precautionary. While global markets slid Friday, White House economists only see a limited economic impact from the virus on the first quarter of 2020 of about 20 basis points, or 0.2 percentage points. That is largely in line with the predictions of external analysts.

The two officials spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss internal assessments of the coro-

navirus. Publicly, White House officials have largely downplayed the potential economic impact on the United States, with White House economic adviser Larry Kudlow saying it will probably only have a "minimal" impact on the economy.

Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross, though, said the coronavirus outbreak "will help" persuade companies to move operations back to the United States and Mexico, a sentiment that other White House officials have not voiced publicly.

Federal officials on Friday announced unprecedented restrictions on travel to and from China, barring foreigners from entering the United States if they have been in China during the previous 14 days. More than 14,000 people have been diagnosed with coronavirus. More than 250 have died, all in China.

The economic vulnerability is acute for China, where many businesses have already closed down as consumers stay home. Trade with China still represents a sliver of the mammoth U.S. economy.

"You need something that would cause greater uncertainty



DAMIAN DOVARGANES/AP

A woman wears a protective mask in Alhambra, Calif., on Friday. Economic advisers form the White House are studying the possible impact the coronavirus will have on the U.S. economy.

such that businesses postpone making new investments and consumers stay home" for the U.S. economy to be hit, said Chris Rupkey, chief financial economist at MUFG in New York. "It'd have to be a much bigger health scare than we've seen. It hasn't reached the magnitude of a true crisis that could put the brakes on growth."

Some analysts also say that even if the coronavirus continues for one or two quarters, there is unlikely to be more serious long-term damage to the U.S. economy. Combined with a downturn in sales at Boeing, Rupkey said,

the virus may shave about three-quarters of a percentage point off economic growth. Gross domestic product rose 2.3% last year, so such a dent could be notable.

Federal Reserve Vice Chair Richard Clarida called the virus a "wild card" on Friday but also said that it is unlikely to meaningfully alter the broader economy if resolved within one or two quarters. Economists caution that a slowdown caused by a temporary crisis is usually followed by a significant uptick as the economy stabilizes.

Quarantine: Almost 200 Americans are held in Calif.

FROM FRONT PAGE

entry to foreign nationals who have traveled to China within the last 14 days, with the exception of immediate family of U.S. citizens and permanent residents.

Americans returning from China will be allowed into the country but will face screening at select ports of entry and be required to undertake 14 days of self-screening to ensure they don't pose a health risk.

Those returning from Hubei province, the center of the outbreak, will be subject to up to 14 days of mandatory quarantine.

The installations selected by the Defense Department are the 163th Regiment, Regional Training Institute, Fort Carson, Colo.; Travis Air Force Base, Calif.; Lackland Air Force Base, Texas; Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif.

Nearly 200 Americans already are quarantined at a military base in Southern California after being evacuated from Wuhan, the capital of Hubei province.

None of the Americans being housed at the March Air Reserve Base in Riverside have shown signs of illness, but it can take up to two weeks for someone who is infected to get sick.

Beginning Sunday, the U.S. will also begin funneling all flights to the U.S. from China to seven major airports where passengers can be screened for illness.

Flu season is a much bigger threat than ominous new coronavirus

By LENNY BERNSTEIN
The Washington Post

The rapidly spreading virus has closed schools in Knoxville, Tenn., cut blood donations to dangerous levels in Cleveland and prompted limits on hospital visitors in Wilson, N.C. More ominously, it has infected as many as 26 million people in the United States in just four months, killing up to 25,000 so far.

In other words, a difficult but not extraordinary flu season in the United States, the kind most people shrug off each winter or handle with rest, fluids and pain relievers if they contract the illness.

But this year, a new coronavirus from China has focused attention on diseases that can sweep through an entire population, rattling the public despite the current magnitude of the threat. The flu poses the bigger and more pressing peril; just seven cases of the new respiratory illness have been reported in the United States, none of them fatal or apparently even life-threatening.

"Anything that we don't feel we have sufficient information about

Anything that we don't feel we have sufficient information about feels like a threat.

Lynn Bufka
 senior director of practice research and policy at American Psychological Association

feels like a threat," said Lynn Bufka, senior director of practice research and policy at the American Psychological Association and an expert on anxiety. "The flu doesn't feel novel. Most people's experience with the flu is they've had it, they're recovered, it's not a big deal — despite the fact that thousands of people die every year."

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 8.6 million to 12 million people have visited health-care providers complaining of influenza-like symptoms, such as fever, coughing, sneezing and aches since the flu season began Oct. 1. As many as 310,000 people have been hospitalized, and 68 children have died.

On the CDC's map of flu activity, most of the nation is at deep

red, indicating the highest level of "influenza-like illness" activity.

The entire school district serving Knoxville and Knox County, Tenn., which has 57,800 students, shut down last week because of flu circulating among students and staffers. In Cuyahoga County, Ohio, which includes Cleveland, 218 people have died; 2,500 have shown up in emergency rooms in the city alone, said Merle Gordon, director of the city's Department of Public Health. In Arkansas, nine school districts have closed; 33 people have died and hospitalizations have increased sharply in the past two weeks.

"We're being hit right now, a lot of communities at the same time," said Jennifer Dillaha, medical director for immunizations and outbreak response for the Arkansas Department of Health.

More than 173 million doses of flu vaccine have been administered to date, much less than needed to cover the nation. During the 2018-19 flu season, the latest with complete data available, 45.3% of adults and 62.6% of children received flu shots, according to the CDC.

Two types of flu are circulating, increasing risk. They seem to be producing fewer fatalities among older people, who typically comprise most of the deaths during flu season, but they are hitting children hard. The current season does not appear to be as severe as 2017-18, when the flu reached epidemic proportions and as many as 95,000 people died, according to CDC estimates.

But no amount of flu can mitigate public fear and interest in the new coronavirus, which is spreading inexorably out of China, where it has killed more than 250 people and infected more than 11,000.

"I would say that there's good interest in both," Dillaha said. "I think people are a little bit panicked about coronavirus and want to know what steps to take, thinking that it's circulating in the

state." So far it isn't, she said. "Any time someone asks about the flu they talk about coronavirus, and any time they talk about coronavirus, they ask about the flu," she said.

Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases and a member of the government task force coordinating the response to the coronavirus, said he is often asked why the government is focusing on coronavirus when so many are dying of seasonal influenza.

"I often get asked: 'We have an influenza outbreak here, we have about 8,000 deaths already, 100,000 hospitalizations. Why are we paying such attention to coronavirus?'"

"The reason is, despite the morbidity and mortality with influenza, there's a certainty of seasonal flu. I can tell you as we get into March and April, the cases are going to go down."

Until officials can offer that kind of certainty about the coronavirus, even if it does not seem as dangerous as the flu, anxiety levels will not decline, Bufka said.

NATION

Focus in Iowa on handful of Democratic candidates

By STEVE PEOPLES
AND THOMAS BEAUMONT
Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa — Within the Democrats' sprawling presidential contest is a smaller, yet critical competition among a handful of candidates jockeying to secure the backing of their party's establishment wing.

The first answers come Monday in the Iowa caucuses when voters begin sorting out the fight between progressive candidates, who are arguing for revolutionary change, and more moderate contenders, who many in the party believe have the better chance to defeat President Donald Trump in November.

Joe Biden, Pete Buttigieg and Amy Klobuchar have been making the case in Iowa that they can assemble a broader coalition of voters in states essential to denying Trump's reelection. Waiting for them on the Super Tuesday primaries in March is Mike Bloomberg, an ideologically similar candidate who is skipping the early contests as he spends hundreds of millions of dollars in larger states.

Their candidacies are rooted in the idea of electability, and a belief that Bernie Sanders and

Elizabeth Warren are proposing ideas that excite core Democratic voters with sweeping, expensive calls for structural change but would fall well short of winning an electoral majority against the Republican incumbent.

The unofficial establishment primary will help determine the identity of the Democratic Party in 2020 as it frames the matchup against Trump. The three top Democrats in Iowa most often considered moderates oppose aggressive progressive priorities such as "Medicare for All," yet their profiles offer sharply different views of the world.

Biden is a lifelong politician with working-class roots. The 38-year-old Buttigieg is a former mayor of South Bend, Ind., and an openly gay ex-military intelligence officer. Klobuchar is a 59-year-old three-term Minnesota senator and a former county prosecutor.

In Iowa, the establishment-minded Democrats are working to assemble a coalition of voters that typically skews older, more rural and even includes non-Democrats. Strategists for Biden, Buttigieg and Klobuchar note they have specifically targeted moderate Republicans over the

race's final days.

Klobuchar's team says she's the only candidate to have campaigned in all of the 31 counties in Iowa that previously backed President Barack Obama but flipped to Trump in 2016.

"We're reaching out to our Democratic base but also looking to broaden the tent," Klobuchar campaign manager Justin Buon said, pointing to their efforts to win over moderate Democrats, moderate Republicans and disaffected Trump voters.

Meanwhile, the voters who will decide the contest aren't sure what to do.

Karen and David Scudiero, from North Liberty, are Republicans who say their party has abandoned them. They're ready to vote for virtually anyone the Democrats run against Trump.

They say Biden and Klobuchar most closely align with their views on issues such as college affordability and health care. David Scudiero, 66, left a Biden event Saturday still undecided, but leaning toward the former vice president. "I see him being able to work with other people," he said.

His wife, Karen, was less certain. She felt Biden's energy level



ANDREW HARNIK/AP

Democratic presidential candidate Sen. Amy Klobuchar, D-Minn., speaks at a campaign stop Sunday at Jethro's BBQ Steak n' Chop in Ames, Iowa.

was low.

"I'm having a tough time with his age, I'd be honest. He looked older than I expected him to look," she said. "I can't — his politi-

cies are great. It's not big change. But I wrestle with that in my mind. Do we need big change? Or do we need little changes around the edges?"

GOP moves validate Trump's actions

By JULIE PACE
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Republicans have decided it was OK.

With their expected vote this coming week to acquit President Donald Trump of abusing power and obstructing Congress, GOP senators are giving their express approval to the

conduct that landed Trump at the center of the fourth impeachment case in American history. It's the same message that House Republicans sent late last year with their unanimous votes against sending the case to trial.

It's a fitting conclusion for a president who has spent three years testing the boundaries of his office and daring his own party to restrain him as his power and popularity within the GOP grew.

It was already clear heading into the impeachment inquiry just how reluctant Republicans were to challenge Trump's impulses. Coming out of the trial it's uncertain whether there is anything he can do in office that would draw more than a passing rhetorical rebuke from his party.

To Democrats, who initiated the impeachment process in hopes of pulling at least a handful of moderate or retiring GOP law-



JACQUELYN MARTIN/AP

The Senate, led by Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, right, is expected to vote to acquit President Donald Trump on Wednesday.

makers to their side, Republicans are sending the message that, when it comes to Trump, nothing matters. His grip on the party is complete.

"No," Rep. Hakeem Jeffries, one of the House Democratic impeachment managers, said in a retort to Republicans. "Lawlessness matters, abuse of power matters, corruption matters. The Constitution matters."

The reasons are clear for Republican lawmakers' fealty to Trump. When he was a candidate in the 2016 primary, nearly all of them opposed him, often in terms as harsh as Democrats now use. Today, he inspires a loyalty borne of fear and retribution but also of the belief that Republicans' own political fortunes are directly tied to his.

GOP Sen. Lamar Alexander of Tennessee, who is not seeking reelection, called Trump's over-

tures to Ukraine "inappropriate" and thoroughly proved by House Democrats, but that Trump's actions did not rise to the level of high crimes and misdemeanors.

Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla., went so far as to suggest Trump's actions may have indeed been impeachable, but Rubio argued that removing Trump from office was not the right remedy.

"Just because actions meet a standard of impeachment does not mean it is in the best interest of the country to remove a president from office," Rubio said.

But behind the flickers of disapproval and the sober, carefully parsed statements, the all but certain acquittal vote Wednesday means Republicans are also accepting Trump's behavior and establishing a precedent for the ways in which an American president can wield the power of the office for personal political gain.

DOJ: Emails reveal Trump's thinking regarding Ukraine

By COLEY ITKOWITZ
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Hours after the Senate voted against seeking new evidence in the impeachment case against President Donald Trump, the administration acknowledged the existence of two dozen emails that could reveal the president's thinking about withholding military aid to Ukraine.

In a midnight court filing, the Justice Department explained why it shouldn't have to unredact copies of more than 100 emails written by officials at the Office of Management and Budget and the Defense Department about the hold on funds to Ukraine.

Heather Walsh, an OMB lawyer, wrote that of the 111 redacted emails in the lawsuit, 24 are protected by "presidential privilege."

"Specifically, the documents in this category are emails that reflect communications by either the President, the Vice President, or the President's immediate advisers regarding Presidential decision-making about the scope, duration, and purpose of the hold on military assistance to Ukraine," Walsh wrote.

In the weeks since the December House vote to impeach the president, new evidence against him has emerged, including reports that former White House national security adviser John Bolton says there was a quid pro quo conditioning the aid on investigations by Ukraine that could

help the president politically.

Trump and administration officials repeatedly stonewalled the House impeachment probe, refusing to allow some witnesses to testify and to provide requested documents.

Ultimately Democrats could persuade only two Republicans that more evidence was needed. On Friday, the Senate voted 51 to 49 to block new witnesses and documents, clearing the way for Trump's acquittal this week.

Democrats are likely to seize on the next court filing as proof that the trial was incomplete and thus invalid.

"Every single Republican Senator voted to endorse the White House cover-up of these potentially important truth-revealing emails," Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., said in a statement Saturday. "Make no mistake, the full truth will eventually come out and Republicans will have to answer for why they were so determined to enable the president to hide it."

A spokesman for Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., declined to comment. Heavily blacked-out versions of the emails in question were released in two batches in December in response to a lawsuit filed by the Center for Public Integrity after the administration ignored a Freedom of Information Act request for the materials.

The government's filing Friday asked the court to deny the organization's request for unredacted copies.

NATION



STEVEN SENNE/AP

Scientist and study director Jennifer Molignano uses an electronic pipette to prepare culture medium, a dark pink fluid that provides nutrition to living human skin tissue, as she sets up a demonstration of experiments at a MatTek Corp. lab in Ashland, Mass.

More states join global push to ban animal-tested cosmetics

By MICHELLE L. PRICE
Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — A growing number of states are considering a ban on the sale or import of cosmetics that have been tested on animals, as advocates argue that testing products such as lotions, shampoos and makeup on rabbits, mice and rats is cruel and outdated.

The cause has gained support from consumers and many cosmetics companies, but the biggest hurdle is China, which requires that cosmetics sold in its large, lucrative market undergo testing on animals.

China's policy applies to all imported cosmetics, including makeup, perfume and hair care products, along with some "special use" goods produced in China, such as hair dye, sunscreen and whitening products that make functional claims.

The California, Nevada and Illinois laws create exemptions for any cosmetics that were tested on

performed after Jan. 1, aren't expected to cause much disruption for the industry because many companies already use non-animal testing. Instead, they draw a line in the sand that puts pressure on the U.S. government to pass a nationwide ban and help end China's requirement that most cosmetics sold in that nation of more than 1.4 billion people undergo testing on animals by Chinese regulators.

China's policy applies to all imported cosmetics, including makeup, perfume and hair care products, along with some "special use" goods produced in China, such as hair dye, sunscreen and whitening products that make functional claims.

The California, Nevada and Illinois laws create exemptions for any cosmetics that were tested on

animals to comply with regulations of a foreign government — an exception that acknowledges the reality that most companies will see their products tested on animals if they sell in China.

Supporters note that science has advanced, allowing companies to use non-animal alternatives — such as human cell cultures or lab-grown human skin and eye tissue — to test whether a product or ingredient is safe. Francine Lamoriello, executive vice president for global strategies at the Personal Care Products Council said it's a slow process, but Chinese regulators are working to accept non-animal tests.

"They're having conferences. They really seem to be quite motivated to do as best as they can to accept and validate certain methods," she said.

Woman charged in Mar-a-Lago chase refuses to appear in court

Associated Press

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. — A Connecticut opera singer charged with using an SUV to blast through barricades outside of President Donald Trump's Florida estate, drawing law enforcement gunfire, refused to appear in court on Saturday, delaying her initial appearance.

Palm Beach County Judge Ted Boorad said that Hannah Roemheld's first hearing would be held on Monday if she could be brought from the jail to the court without

endangering herself or deputies, local media reports.

Roemheld, 30, is charged with two state counts of aggravated assault on a law enforcement officer after Friday's wild chase through Palm Beach and past the president's Mar-a-Lago club. She is being held at the Palm Beach County jail without bond. Officials have said Roemheld was "obviously impaired" and they do not believe she targeted the president or Mar-a-Lago. Roemheld has appeared in several Connecticut

operas and said on social media recently that she had a an unspecified performance scheduled in Palm Beach this past week.

Marilyn MacLarne, a Connecticut friend of the Roemheld family, told the South Florida Sun Sentinel that the woman's alleged behavior is completely out of character and that she "wouldn't hurt a soul."

"She's incredibly talented," MacLarne said. "She has really studied her opera singing and she has an amazing voice."

Fallout from Trump's Dorian claims revealed

By LYNN BERRY
AND JILL COLVIN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A flurry of newly released emails from scientists and top officials at the federal agency responsible for weather forecasting clearly illustrates the consternation and outright alarm caused by President Donald Trump's false claim that Hurricane Dorian could hit Alabama.

A top National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration official even called the president's behavior "crazy."

What the scientists and officials found even more troubling was a statement later issued by an unnamed NOAA spokesman that supported Trump's claim and repudiated the agency's own forecasters.

The emails, released late on Friday in response to Freedom of Information Act requests from The Associated Press and others, give an inside picture of the scramble to respond to the president and the turmoil it caused inside the federal agency.

"What's next? Climate science is a hoax?" Craig McLean, NOAA's acting chief scientist, wrote in an email sent to the agency's top officials. "Flagbaggered to leave our forecasters hanging in the political wind."

In a more formal letter, McLean

wrote that what concerned him most was that the Trump administration "is eroding the public trust in NOAA for an apparent political recovery from an ill-timed and imprecise comment from the President."

As Dorian headed for the southeastern U.S. in early September, Trump tweeted that Alabama was "most likely to be hit (much) harder than anticipated." The National Weather Service in Birmingham corrected him, tweeting that "Alabama will NOT see any impacts from #Dorian."

But Trump remained adamant, and NOAA came to his defense with the unsigned statement, which claimed some data provided to the president had indicated that Alabama could be hit by the hurricane and scolded the Birmingham office.

The whole incident is perhaps best remembered for what became known as Sharpie-gate. In defending himself in the Oval Office, Trump displayed an NOAA map that was altered using a black marker to extend the hurricane's projected path.

"Apparently the President is convinced that Alabama was in the path of Dorian and someone altered a NOAA map (with a sharpie) to convince folks," NOAA official Makeda Okolo wrote in an email to chief operating officer Benjamin Friedman and others.

Interview with Utah brothel owner eludes historians

Associated Press

OGDEN, Utah — Scholars at a Utah university are trying to unlock a mystery after discovering a nearly 70-year-old transcript of an interview with a notorious brothel owner that is written in a shorthand style that few people can read today.

The interview was had with madam Rossette Duccini Davis who ran the Rose Rooms brothel in Ogden with her husband in the 1940s and 1950s. Today, the location is home to the nightclub Alleged, the Standard-Examiner reported.

The interview was hidden inside a box of 1970s photos from the newspaper, said Sarah Langdon, head of the Weber State University's special collections.

"Anyone we've ever interviewed who was alive remembers her," Langdon said of Rossette. "She's definitely a well-known figure in the history of Ogden." It's widely believed that city

police and county sheriffs turned a blind eye to the brothel run by Rossette and her husband, Bill. Historian Val Holley has said that they were likely police informants. Another theory holds that they paid a sheriff to look the other way, Langdon said.

Rose, as she was known, pulled down \$30,000 a month in her prime and without several prostitution charges before she was ultimately done in by a federal tax evasion charge, Langdon said.

Now, Weber State is hoping to find someone who can make sense of the lost interview notes. Anyone who is interested in helping can call 801-626-6540.

"It's probably been decades since anyone has used (short-hand)," Langdon said. "But if we could find someone who can decipher these notes, it could be pretty fascinating."

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Video of card game at traffic light goes viral

FL CAPE CORAL — A video of three men playing cards at a folding table while waiting for the traffic light to change at a Florida intersection went viral.

The TikTok video was posted with the caption "Florida back at it with the long lights." The video had more than a million likes, and thousands commented on the card game. A young boy is seen in the video watching the card players from the backseat of his car.

The News-Press reported the video doesn't specify what Florida city the men were in, but thousands took the opportunity to rant about the most hated local intersections in the comments.

Man bribes postal workers to steal mail

NJ NEWARK — A New Jersey man bribed postal service workers so they would steal checkbooks, credit cards and electronics from the mail, federal prosecutors said.

Jabre Beauvoir, 21, of Elizabeth was charged with bribery and receiving stolen mail.

Last year, between May and September, Beauvoir offered bribes to postal workers to steal various items, prosecutors said. Text messages showed Beauvoir instructing the workers to look for certain types of mailings containing material to be stolen.

First legal pot shop opens in Cape Cod

MA PROVINCETOWN — Cape Cod has its first legal pot shop.

Cureleaf opened a recreational marijuana store in Provincetown after town officials granted the Wakefield-based company approval.

There are more than 30 retail marijuana shops open in Massachusetts, which legalized recreational use of the drug in 2016. The first shops in the state didn't open until 2018, and Cape Cod communities have been reluctant to allow the shops to open there.

One dispensary for medical marijuana patients operates in the region, but most towns specifically ban retail marijuana sales. Provincetown, at the tip of the Cape, is one of just six on the peninsula to allow it.

Civil engineers get engaged atop bridge

NH PORTSMOUTH — A pair of civil engineers took their relationship to new heights atop a New Hampshire bridge.

Dan Del Tufo arranged to have the Memorial Bridge in Portsmouth lifted to its maximum height, and that's where he surprised Julia Kallmerten with a marriage proposal — so she could, in his words, "aggravate me for the rest of my life." She said yes.

The couple met at the University of New Hampshire, and both have worked on projects around



JERRY LARSON, WACO (TEXAS) TRIBUNE-HERALD/AP

Free bird

Jesse Martin, 8, center, with Moody FFA, reacts as he lifts his chicken along with others for the judge at the McLennan County Jr. Livestock Show in Waco, Texas.

the bridge, The Boston Globe reported.

Woman steals 3 vehicles, slams others in spree

NY NEW YORK — A woman went on a car-jacking spree in Manhattan, stealing three cars, flipping one over and crashing into 15 other vehicles before being taken into custody, New York City police said.

Police said only minor injuries were reported, but the carjackings snarled traffic on the heavily traveled FDR Drive.

Audeine Marks, 25, of the Bronx was charged with multiple counts of robbery, grand larceny, driving while intoxicated and operating a motor vehicle while impaired by drugs.

She was finally arrested after crashing into a barrier across from City Hall.

Theater marquee lights to continue blinking

IN GOSHEN — Twinkling light bulbs that give a northern Indiana theater's marquee a dramatic appearance can continue blinking thanks to a zoning board's nod to the building's

THE CENSUS

1K

The approximate number of box turtles William T. Gangemi, 27, of Freehold, N.J., smuggled out of Oklahoma. Gangemi pleaded guilty last fall. He was sentenced to two years' probation and ordered to pay \$250,000 in restitution to the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation and a \$100,000 fine to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. He admitted in a plea agreement that he bought the turtles and then sold them for a profit. Federal law prohibits the sale or purchase of illegally collected wildlife with a market value over \$500.

historic nature.

The Goshen Theater's twinkling lights wouldn't normally be allowed under Goshen's zoning rules, but the city's Board of Zoning Appeals voted to grant the theater a variance for its marquee, citing the 1907 theater's history.

Fossils of shark teeth, skeletons discovered

KY MAMMOTH CAVE — Paleontologists working at Mammoth Cave National Park said they discovered shark fossils that include part of a shark head and dorsal fins.

The fossils were parts of the head of a shark that lived about 330 million years ago. The find includes a lower jaw, skull cartilage and several teeth from a species

called "Saivodus striatus" from the Late Mississippian period, said John-Paul Hodnett, a paleontologist and program coordinator at Dinosaur Park in Maryland.

While shark teeth are one of the most common fossils on the planet, fossils of shark skeletons are uncommon because cartilage does not typically survive fossilization, Hodnett said.

Pranksters fill potholes with green turf

AZ TUCSON — Pranksters apparently fed up with potholes in southern Arizona have filled them with bright green turf tupees.

The Arizona Daily Star reported 10 of the crumbling crater in Tucson have been filled with carefully cut patches of fake

grass.

The illicit landscaping appeared in early January, much to the delight of some nearby residents.

They assumed it was a protest aimed at drawing the city's attention to all the road damage in their historic neighborhood south of downtown. Peaceful pothole protests have become popular online in recent years.

Coyote that bit woman didn't have rabies

WY YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK — A coyote that bit a cross-country skier in Yellowstone National Park didn't have rabies, park officials said.

Rangers treated the unidentified 43-year-old woman at the Canyon Visitor Education Center for punctures and lacerations on her head and arm before she was taken to another medical facility, park officials said.

The young coyote may have been starving because it had porcupine quills in its jaw and mouth, Yellowstone wildlife biologist Doug Smith said in a statement. He said coyote attacks in the park are rare.

From wire reports

WORLD

First coronavirus death reported in the Philippines

Associated Press

BELMONT — The Philippines reported the first death outside China from the new coronavirus on Sunday, as Chinese authorities delayed the opening of schools in the hardest-hit province and tightened the quarantine by allowing only one family member to venture out to buy supplies.

The Philippine Department of Health said that a 44-year-old Chinese man from Wuhan was hospitalized on Jan. 25 with a fever, cough and sore throat and died after developing severe pneumonia. The man's 38-year-old female companion, also from Wuhan, tested positive for the virus as well and remains hospitalized in isolation in Manila.

Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte approved a ban on the entry of all non-citizens from China. The U.S., Japan, Singapore and Australia have imposed similar restrictions despite criticism from China and an assessment from the World Health Organization that such measures were hurting trade and travel.

The death toll in China rose by 45 to 304, and the number of cases worldwide climbed past 14,550, according to China's National Health Commission and other nations. The vast majority of those infected are in China; about 150 cases have been reported in two dozen other countries. The U.S. has recorded eight cases.

The number of airlines sus-



MARK SCHIEFELBEIN/AP

A woman's eyeglasses are fogged up as she wears a face mask during a snowfall in Beijing, on Sunday.

pending flights to China mounted, countries around the world continued evacuating their citizens and a 1,000-bed hospital specially built to handle coronavirus patients in the epicenter city of Wuhan is expected to open on Monday, just 10 days after construction began. A second hospi-

tal is set to open soon afterwards.

Despite the drastic travel restrictions at home, China has chafed at those imposed by foreign governments, criticizing Washington's order barring entry to most non-citizens who visited China recently. Apart from damaging China's international repu-

tation, such steps could worsen a domestic economy already growing at its lowest rate in decades.

The number of confirmed cases will keep growing because thousands of specimens from suspected cases have yet to be tested, said the WHO representative in Beijing, Gauden Galea.

More homes lost to fires in Australia

By ROD MCGUIRK
Associated Press

CANBERRA, Australia — Dozens of homes were destroyed overnight in Australia's southeast but the wildfire threat had diminished by Sunday across New South Wales state and around the national capital Canberra, officials said.

Bega Valley Mayor Kristy McBain said damage in her region 150 miles south of Canberra had yet to be assessed by the New South Wales Rural Fire Service.

"There have been additional homes lost in the Bega Valley," McBain said.

"We're talking probably dozens more. We want to make sure we continue to support our community. This fire isn't over yet," she added.

She said the overnight fire brought losses of homes in the valley to more than 400 in the current fire season.

Rural Fire Service spokesman Greg



Firefighters control a spot fire near Bredbo, south of the Australian capital, Canberra, on Sunday.

Allan said damage assessment teams had yet to confirm media reports of homes lost near the village of Bumbalong, 57 miles south of Canberra.

A dangerous fire threatened southern Canberra and the nearby village of Tharwa. The fire had burnt 136,000 square meters of forest and farmland by Sunday, with a perimeter 92 miles long, the Australian Capital Territory Chief Minister Andrew Barr said.

Residents close to the fire front were warned on Sunday to remain vigilant.

"This morning the fire is still active. There are still days and possibly weeks of firefighting ahead of us," Australian Capital Territory Chief Minister Andrew Barr told reporters.

He said a state of emergency for Canberra and its surrounds would remain in place until at least Monday.

Driver charged after 4 children killed in Sydney

Associated Press

SYDNEY — An allegedly drunken driver has been charged with 20 offenses including manslaughter after an SUV struck seven children on a Sydney sidewalk, killing four and seriously injuring a fifth.

The children were walking to buy ice cream when they were struck on Saturday evening by a vehicle driven by Samuel Davidson, police said.

Three of the children killed were siblings and their brother was taken to a hospital in serious condition. The fourth child killed was the daughter of their father's cousin.

The father, Danny Abdallah, told reporters on Sunday that he was heartbroken.

"I don't know what to say. I'm numb," Abdallah said. "All I want to say is please, drive careful."

His children Antony, 13, Angelina, 9, and Sienna, 9, were killed. Their 10-year-old brother was in serious but stable condition.

Abdallah and his wife Leila had had six children. He said his cousin lost an 11-year-old child, Veronique Sakk.

Two other girls aged 10 and 13 suffered minor injuries, authorities said.

Davidson was arrested at the scene on Saturday and was retained in custody.



Joel Carratt, AAP Image/AP

London police call stabbings 'terrorism-related'

Associated Press

LONDON — Police shot and killed a man in south London after he wounded at least three people in "terrorism-related" stabbings Sunday, the city's police department said.

The attack in the Streatham neighborhood marked a departure from recent attacks in the British capital that took place near high-profile landmarks in central London.

"The circumstances are being assessed," the Metropolitan Police force

tweeted. "The incident has been declared as terrorist-related."

Police said they received reports of the stabbings around 2 p.m. Multiple emergency medical vehicles quickly filled the street as helicopters hovered overhead, according to video shared on social media.

One of the three stabbing victims is being treated for life-threatening injuries, Met Police said.

Witness Karker Tahir told Sky News that undercover police officers chased a man down the neighborhood's main commercial street.

"They kept telling him 'Stop, stop,'" Tahir said. "But he didn't stop, and then I saw that they shot him three times. It was horrible seeing it."

"Police came to us and said, 'You have to leave the shop because he has a bomb in his bag,'" Tahir added.

The attack took place a little over two months after two people were stabbed to death near London Bridge by a man who had recently been released from the prison where he was serving a 16-year sentence for plotting a terror attack.

The victims' mother Leila Geagea, right, pauses Sunday near flowers placed at the scene where seven children were hit by a car in the Sydney suburb of Oatlands.

WORLD

Efforts to control locust outbreak underway in Kenya

Associated Press

NASUULU CONSERVANCY, Kenya — As locusts by the billions—yes, billions—descended on parts of Kenya in the worst outbreak in 70 years, small planes are flying low over affected areas to spray pesticides in what experts call the only effective control method.

It is challenging work, especially in remote areas where mobile phone signals are absent and ground crews cannot quickly communicate coordinates to flight teams.

The ground crews are in “the most woeful terrains,” Marcus Dunn, a pilot and the director at Farmland Aviation, said Saturday. “If there is no network, then the follow on a boda boda (motorcycle), he has to rush off now and go and get a network.”

Just five planes are currently spraying as Kenyan and other authorities try to stop the locusts from spreading to neighboring Uganda and South Sudan. The United Nations has said \$76 million is needed immediately to combat them.

widen such efforts across East Africa.

A fast response is crucial. Experts warn that if left unchecked, the number of locusts could grow by 500 times by June, when drier weather will help bring the outbreak under control.

The finger-length locusts swept into Kenya from Somalia and Ethiopia after unusually heavy rains in recent months, decimating crops in some areas and threatening millions of vulnerable people with a hunger crisis.

Somalia’s agriculture ministry on Sunday called the outbreak a national emergency and major threat to the country’s fragile food security, saying the “uncommonly large” locust swarms are consuming huge amounts of crops.

In swarms the size of major cities, the locusts also have affected parts of Sudan, Djibouti and Eritrea, whose agriculture ministry says both the military and general public have been deployed to combat them.

Kenya’s agriculture minister has acknowledged that authorities weren’t prepared for the scope of the infestation this year. That’s not surprising, considering it’s been decades since the country’s last comparable outbreak, U.N. officials say.

Until the drier weather in June, more rain across the region will bring fresh vegetation to fuel further waves of locust breeding. One field in Kenya on Saturday appeared to be full of mating bright yellow locusts.

“They are trying to mate and reproduce, so we need more help and we are racing against time,” said Salat Tutana, the chief agriculture officer in Isiolo county.

“So far we have decimated around five swarms in Samburu and Isiolo (counties) but we keep on receiving more swarms every week, and that is a lot in terms of the ecosystem,” he said. “They are destroying the environment.”

Within hours, the locusts can strip a pasture of much of its vegetation.



BEN CURTIS/AP

Ranger Gabriel Lesoipa is surrounded by desert locusts as he and a ground team relay the coordinates of the swarm to a plane spraying pesticides Saturday in Nasuulu Conservancy, northern Kenya.

Stripes SERVICE DIRECTORY

The Daily Guide to Navigating the European Business Market

Transportation

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CHRIS PIZZELLO/AP

Singer-songwriter Meghan Trainor celebrates her comeback from vocal cord surgery on her new album, "Treat Myself."

Meghan Trainor puts pain behind her, changes it up on new album

By MARK KENNEDY
Associated Press

Four years ago, Meghan Trainor won the Grammy Award for best new artist. On the first anniversary of that win she was literally speechless — under the knife for vocal surgery.

It was her second time in the operating room for vocal cord work and it led to weeks of silence, anxiety and depression. The "All About That Bass" singer worried she'd never be able to perform again.

"I went to a dark place. And I climbed out of it and I conquered it and I was really proud of myself," she tells The Associated Press. "My therapist was like, 'You should treat yourself after what you went through.'"

That's why Trainor's third album is called "Treat Myself," a 15-track collection that sees the singer-songwriter stretch past her signature doo-wop pop sound to embrace hip-hop and electronic elements.

There's the Sia-like "Wave," the slinky club banger "Please To Meet Ya" with Nicki Minaj and soaring ballads like "After You" alongside familiar retro and '60s-inspired tunes like "No Excuses" and "Evil Twin."

"I've always been writing songs in many genres," she says. Her dad introduced her to gospel, soul and funk, like Ray Charles and Stevie Wonder. Mom leaned toward the pop of Madonna and ABBA. A Trinidadian uncle turned her on to soca music. She herself grew up with Britney Spears and the Backstreet Boys.

"When I try to write, I try to give all my influences in that. I always want to make up a pretend genre — six different genres in one song," she says.

Tommy Bruce, her manager, has watched as Trainor over the past three years has explored whatever musical inspiration strikes, not caring about labels or charts.

"She is such a wildly talented artist, from musicianship to songwriting to producing, and she has this ability to move between genre and style with such ease," he says.

Listen very carefully to Trainor's new album and you'll discover it's very much a family affair. Her brothers — Justin and Ryan — have writing credits and sing background. Her parents — Gary and Kelli — supply background vocals and claps. Even her husband, actor Daryl Sabara, sings on nine tracks.

"He's my No. 1 fan, like legitimately," she says of Sabara. "He plays my music all the time. I hear him blasting it in the car and when he's in the shower. It's just the best to feel so loved and supported like that by your husband."

For this album, Trainor sought out new producers, which resulted in stretching her sound. She had success with Ricky Reed on the last album, "Thank You," but says she felt too safe doing it again.

"I'm a creature of habit. When I found someone who understood how I worked, I thought, 'This is great. Let's do this forever.' So for this album, I really wanted to get out there and meet as many songwriters and producers as I could."

This time, some of the producers include Mike Sabath, Eddie Benjamin, King Henry, Ojivolta, Zach Skelton, Sigala, Tyler Johnson and Andrew Wells, respectively trying to lift up emerging talent. She also shared the microphone with Minaj, Nicole Scherzinger, AJ Mitchell, Lennon Stella, Sasha Sloan and Sabath.

"We felt like finally we have an album full of hit singles and I'm so confident in every song. We kept writing and saying, 'May the best song win,'" she says. "Now we have this album that we're finally ready to show the world."

Many of the songs have Trainor's trademark messages of empowerment. "Love yourself," she sings in "Babygirl." On "Workin' On It," she admits to fighting thoughts of self-loathing. "I should give myself way more love." And on "No Excuses," she demands respect: "I don't disrespect you, don't you disrespect me."

"It's really hard to write a self-love, empowering anthem without being cheesy," she says. "That's something that the world loves and needs. I know I need it, and it's something I want to hear on the radio. So these are my favorite songs to write because I'm working on it every single day — my confidence and my self love. I know somebody else needs it, too."

The album also has a few inside jokes. It gives her a kick that the title "Treat Myself" is her initials backward. And she has a callback to her first big hit in "Genetics" when she sings "How you get dat bass?"

'The Crown' names next and last queen

"The Crown," Netflix's hit drama series about the British royal family, will end earlier than expected and has revealed its next and last queen.

Creator and showrunner Peter Morgan had said he expected to create six seasons, but now thinks five is the "perfect time and place to stop."

Imelda Staunton has been tapped to be the last actress to play Queen Elizabeth II. She will take the crown in the fifth season from Olivia Colman, who succeeded Claire Foy. "Imelda is an astonishing talent and will be a fantastic successor," Morgan said in a statement Friday.

Staunton is an Olivier Award-winner whose films include "Vera Drake," "Nanny McPhee" and "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows." She played Lady Maud Bagshaw in the "Downton Abbey" movie.

"The Crown" has won a Golden Globe for best TV drama and both Foy and Colman won best actress Globes in the royal role. Season three arrived on Netflix in December.

Sandler signs on to make 4 more films for Netflix

Netflix announced Friday that Adam Sandler and his Happy Madison Productions reached a deal to make four more films for the streaming giant. He's had five films with the studio along with the stand-up special "Adam Sandler: 100% Fresh."

Netflix leader Ted Sarandos said the company is excited to extend its partnership with Sandler, because audiences "love his stories and his humor." The company said his 2019 comedy "Murder Mystery" starring him and Jennifer Aniston was the most popular film on Netflix in the U.S. last year and one of the most popular in eight other countries.

'Queen of Suspense' Clark dies at 92

Mary Higgins Clark, the tireless and long-reigning "Queen of Suspense" whose tales of women beating the odds made her one of the world's most popular writers, died Saturday at age 92.

Her publisher, Simon & Schuster, announced that she died of natural causes in Naples, Fla.

Widowed in her late 30s with five children, she became a perennial best-seller, writing or co-writing "A Stranger Is Watching," "Daddy's Little Girl" and more than 50 other favorites. Sales topped 100 million copies.

Other news

■ Guitarist Andy Gill, who supplied the scratching, seething sound that fueled the highly influential British post-punk band Gang of Four, died Saturday after a brief respiratory illness, according to a statement from the band. He was 64. Gill, along with original bandmates Jon King, Hugo Burnham and Dave Allen released in 1979 one of the most seminal albums of the punk era, "Entertainment!" Gill was also a respected record producer, notably working with the Red Hot Chili Peppers on their self-titled debut in 1984. Other bands he produced include The Jesus Lizard, The Stranglers and Killing Joke.


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BY GEORGE F. WILL
Washington Post Writers Group

PITTSBURGH

In the 1940s, Steve Shelton's grandfather dressed up — white shirt, tie, fedora — to take the streetcar to the steel mill where he would change into work clothes, and would shower before dressing up to return home. "There was," Shelton says, "such dignity in the trades back then."

There still is at the Trade Institute of Pittsburgh that Shelton launched. There, in what used to be a Westinghouse Electric factory, some men, many in their 30s looking for their first legal jobs, and a few women learn to wield trowels and mortar, thereby deriving from bricklaying (and welding, carpentry and painting) a dignity they did not feel when they grew up on this city's meanest streets, or when, for 85% of them, their incarcerations ended.

Shelton, 59, was 12 when he first was taken to a construction site. "I just wanted to build stuff," so after enjoying two things in high school (wood shop, metal shop), serving in the Navy and working in his trade, he started a business "out of the trunk of my car." Eventually, however, he wondered: "Where are all the young guys?" He saw: "Everyone was being pushed to college." He thought: "Having guys 55 or 60 years old on top of scaffolding, laying bricks — is not sustainable."

He knew there were guys like him "who want to work with their hands." Many were coming out of jail. Shelton talked with churches and civic organizations, and eventually the local Mellon (banking) and Heinz (ketchup, etc.) foundations. One thing led to another, and to this: The abandoned factory — deindustrialization has

To a person from a fractured family, a job says: Someone objectively values you — enough to pay you to spend eight hours a day adding value to a project.

upsides — has a floor covered with bricks, cinder blocks, tubs of mortar and people trying to get the hang of building things, and get on the bottom rung of the ladder of upward mobility.

Things were made in the factory in the 1920s when Pittsburgh, then America's 9th most populous city (in 1920 it was just ahead of Los Angeles) made the nation's steel ligaments. In 2020, buildings are made in the factory. Pittsburgh, now 66th in population, has put aside smokestacks and remade itself around technology and health care. It has, however, a construction boom — partly a result of Pennsylvania's fracking — and a shortage of workers for the building trades.

Shelton's \$1.4 million annual budget, from private and public sources, enables him and his staff "to take someone from nothing to a living wage in 10 weeks." Cameron Meadows, TIP's assistant masonry instructor, served 10 years for shooting someone in a bar fight, long before TIP changed his life. Shelton notes that when his human reclamation program prevents someone from spending 60 years in prison, costing Pennsylvania \$50,000 a year, "I've saved taxpayers 3 million bucks."

One in 38 American adults is incarcerated, on probation or on parole. Many former

inmates return to communities where they had barely been connected to its constitutive units — families, schools and civic, religious and commercial institutions. Reintegration — acquiring residences, driver's licenses, bus passes, bank accounts, health care, child care, employment — can be bewildering, demoralizing and exhausting. Some of TIP's trainees are "couch surfing" — moving from one residence to another, night by night. All receive financial counseling. And there are driving lessons in the factory's parking lot.

But every morning at 8 a.m. — not 8:01, because, Shelton says, in construction time is money — the trainees sit in the "gratitude circle." There, each says something for which he or she is thankful. They all can mention this: 10 weeks — 340 hours — of free training. And a job on the horizon, sometimes a union job at \$22.58 an hour.

To a person from a fractured family, a job says: Someone objectively values you — enough to pay you to spend eight hours a day adding value to a project. To a person fresh from prison, a job says: You are a welcomed, functioning part of the society that decided it had to put you in a cage for a while. To a person whose education conferred only rudimentary skills, a job says: You have risen from among the unskilled to the rank of craftsman.

An expert bricklayer's virtuosity with a trowel and mortar — Shelton's is magical — as he or she manipulates bricks with motions so fluid that the bricks seem weightless, has the elegance that characterizes all craftsmanship. The recidivism rate among formerly incarcerated Pennsylvanians is around 43%. The rate among Shelton's former trainees is 9%.

It is an old saying that the devil fills idle hands. But hands not holding trowels.

Iowa will test whether Sanders' surge will endure

BY KAREN TUMULTY
The Washington Post

DES MOINES

One of the most enduring and unlikely story lines of this presidential campaign has been the passion that the oldest candidate in the Democratic race inspires in the youngest voters.

Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt. — who will be just eight months shy of his 80th birthday on Inauguration Day 2021 — has surged in no small part because of the support he is receiving from people under age 35, with whom he has a sizable double-digit lead in some polls. They were the core of his support four years ago, when he came in second to Hillary Clinton for the Democratic nomination, and remain so now.

But consider a less-discussed flip side to that: Sanders is struggling to win over Democrats closer to his own age.

In a national Quinnipiac University survey released last week, Sanders received only 7% support from Democrats and Democratic-leaning independents 65 years and older; by comparison, former Vice President Joe Biden was favored by 36% of those older voters. Biden enjoyed a 25-point lead over Sanders among those between 50 and 64 years old.

There are a number of possible reasons this is true, starting with the fact older generations are more conservative than younger ones. Another is that the "democratic socialist" label that Sanders embraces means different things to different generations.

Younger people are more likely to associate it with progressive, Scandinavian-style systems that offer their citizens heavily

subsidized health care, college and other generous government programs; for those who grew up during the Cold War, the word evokes memories of the Soviet Union and its failed command-and-control economy.

Nor are older people as enamored as younger ones with the specifics of the policies that Sanders supports.

A Quinnipiac poll in November found that nearly three-fourths of Democrats under 35 support Sanders' Medicare-for-all proposal, but among all respondents actually eligible for Medicare, less than one-third do. That, no doubt, reflects a concern that putting millions more Americans into the program would threaten its stability, and with it, the value of the benefits provided by a system to which older Americans spent decades contributing.

None of this is to say that Democratic voters are less concerned about the health care system needs reform. Older voters were more inclined to support a gradualist approach — dismissed by Sanders but backed by the more centrist candidates in the race — in which adults would be given an option of buying into Medicare if they choose.

All of this suggests that a potential undercurrent exists within Sanders' recent burst of momentum in the Democratic primary.

Older voters have traditionally shown a higher propensity than younger ones to actually turn up at the polls. That means, for Sanders to pull off a convincing victory in Monday's Iowa caucuses, he will need a higher-than-average turnout of new or infrequent young voters in a state where the median age of registered Democrats is in the mid-50s.

What this means for Sanders' chances

in a matchup against President Donald Trump, however, is far less clear. The generational tensions within the Democratic Party are real, but a different dynamic will come into play as the race moves from the primary to the general election.

The latest Post-ABC News poll, which was conducted between Jan. 20 and Jan. 23, posed hypothetical matchups between Trump and each of the most talked-about Democratic contenders.

All of the Democrats ran stronger against Trump among young voters than they did among older ones, with Sanders doing only marginally better with 18- to 39-year-olds than Biden and Sen. Elizabeth Warren, D-Mass. He got 55%, against Trump's 41%; both Biden and Warren received 53%.

At the same time, the poll indicated that if Democrats chose Sanders as their nominee, he would not represent a significantly bigger drag with elderly voters than picking one of their other choices. Among voters 65 and older, Sanders got 47% to Trump's 50%, which was within the poll's margin of error. Biden got 48%; Warren did worse than both of them among that group, garnering only 45%.

In the fall, Sanders acknowledged that he has "a lot of work to do" to win over Democratic voters in his own age group. "I'm not saying we're going to win older people by a huge number, but we're going to do a lot better than we are right now," he added.

His poll will be field-tested on Monday night with Iowa's legions of graying caucus-goers, who may provide the first indications of whether the recent Sanders surge itself will have any longevity.

Karen Tumulty is a Washington Post columnist covering national politics.

SCOREBOARD

Sports on AFN

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College basketball

Men's Top 25 Fared

Saturday
1. Baylor (15-1) vs. TCU 68-52. Next: at Kansas City, Monday.
2. Gonzaga (23-1) beat San Francisco 83-79. Next: vs. Loyola Marymount, Thursday.
3. Kansas (18-3) beat Texas Tech 78-75. Next: vs. Oklahoma State, Saturday.
4. San Diego State (23-0) beat Utah State 80-68. Next: at Air Force, Saturday.
5. Florida (18-3) beat Rice 78-63. Tech 74-63. Next: vs. North Carolina, Monday.

6. Louisville (13-3) beat N.C. State 77-57. Next: vs. Wake Forest, Wednesday.
7. Dayton (7-2) beat Fordham 70-56. Next: vs. St. John's, Saturday.
8. Villanova (17-1) lost to Creighton 76-61. Next: at No. 16 Butler, Wednesday.
9. Michigan (16-2) beat Michigan 97-98. Next: at Boston College, Tuesday.

10. Seton Hall (16-1) lost to Xavier 74-62. Next: vs. DePaul, Saturday.
11. Oregon (18-5) lost to Stanford 70-60. Next: at Oregon State, Saturday.

12. Kentucky (16-5) lost to No. 17, Aurora 75-65. Next: vs. Mississippi State, Tuesday.

13. Michigan State (16-6) lost to Wisconsin 64-63. Next: vs. No. 24 Penn State, Tuesday.

14. Maryland (17-4) did not play. Next: vs. No. 25 Rutgers, Tuesday.

15. Butler (17-5) lost to Providence 65-61. Next: vs. No. 19, Creighton, Wednesday.

16. Auburn (19-2) beat No. 13 Kentucky 75-66. Next: at Arkansas, Tuesday.

17. Arkansas (18-3) did not play. Next: vs. No. 19, Illinois, Sunday.

18. Illinois (15-5) did not play. Next: at No. 18, Michigan State, Saturday.

19. Colorado (17-5) beat Southern Cal 78-75. Next: vs. No. 1, Duke, Thursday.

20. Houston (17-5) lost to Cincinnati 61-54. Next: vs. Tulane, Thursday.

21. (17-4) vs. No. 20, Mississippi 73-63. Next: vs. Vanderbilt, Wednesday.

22. Wichita State (17-5) lost to Tulsa 75-66. Next: vs. Cincinnati, Wednesday.

23. Nebraska (16-5) beat No. 19, Nebraska 76-64. Next: at No. 14, Michigan State, Tuesday.

24. Rutgers (16-6) lost to Michigan 69-63. Next: at No. 15, Maryland, Tuesday.

Saturday's men's scores

EAST
Adelphi 77, Bentley 75
American International 85, St. Michael's 70

Ashley 80, Lehman 79
Assumption 55, Le Moyne 61

Baylor 70, Boston College 64
Boston U, 72, Bucknell 57

Bowdoin 78, Bates 73

Brown 70, Bryant 61, St. 81, 20T

Bridgewater 92, Queens (NY) 65

Brown 72, Columbia 66

Cambodia 70, Connecticut 65

Cairn 87, City College (NY) 52

California (Pa.) 80, Slippery Rock 70

Central Conn. 70, Rosemont 70

Christopher Newport 81, Mary Washington 68

Dartmouth 85, Kenyon 85, Keene 85

Duke 79, Sawyer 74

Eastern 70, Quinnipiac 70, OT

Elizabethtown 70, Scranton 68

Elmira 74, Eastern Nazarene 69

Emmanuel 95, Regis 79

FDU-Florham 79, Misericordia 62

Fordham 85, Boston College 85, Mount St. Mary's 75

Gannon 64, Pitt-Johnstown 53

Gordon 74, Bryant 64, Springfield 67

Grove City 75, Bethany (WV) 66

Hartford 86, Dickinson 75

Husson 70, Thomas (Maine) 61

Iona 70, Bryant 67, 70, OT

Johns Hopkins 82, Muhlenberg 73

Kent 70, Bryant 61, 70, OT

Lafayette 82, American 70

La Roche 70, Williams 71

Lafayette 82, American 70

Lander 75, Penn-St. Berks 69

Lasell 88, Rivier 87, Penn-St. Berks 69

Lebanon Valley 87, ALVR 83, 20T

Marine Presque Isle 89, Lyndon St. 97

Mass.-Lowell 77, New Hampshire 55

McDaniel 75, Marine St. 97

Mercyhurst 68, Indiana (Pa.) 62

Merrimack 75, Saint Anselm 75

Middlebury 77, Connecticut College 61

Moravian 59, Catholic 56

Morgan 75, Saint Anselm 75

Mouton Alloys 75, Alfred St. 71

NYIT 72, Molloy 70, OT

Oberlin 75, Saint Anselm 75

New Haven 78, Franklin Pierce 73

Nyack 85, Sciences (Pa.) 74

Penn 70, Saint Anselm 75

Penn-St. Harrisburg 99, Penn College 81

Pitt-Greensburg 92, Pitt-Bradford 72

Plymouth 75, Connecticut 56

Pots (Conn.) vs. William & Mary 70

Princeton 70, Harvard 72

Rochester 69, St. Francis 72

Rutgers 70, Saint Anselm 75

Salve Regina 70, Saint Anselm 75

Samford 75, Saint Francis 75

Saint Peter's 75, Saint Francis 75

Saint Joseph's 85, Saint Francis 75

Saint Peter's 75, Saint Francis 75

S

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Top 25 roundup

Doughty carries Auburn

No. 17 Tigers down No. 13 Kentucky in tourney rematch

Associated Press

AUBURN, Ala. — Samir Dhoogee scored 23 points while making 14 of 15 free throws and No. 17 Auburn finished strong for a 75-66 defeat of No. 13 Kentucky on Saturday.

Isaac Okoro made a key three-pointer and scored 14 points for the Tigers (19-2, 6-2 Southeastern Conference), who dominated the final four minutes.

It wasn't as big as their 77-71 overtime victory over the Wildcats (16-5, 6-2) that vaulted Auburn to its first Final Four last season, but it moved the Tigers into a tie for second place in the SEC.

"It has to take us from good to very good," Auburn coach Bruce Pearl said. "Kentucky's the best team we've played, so I thought we stepped up and responded."

"Now the question is can we build on it?"

No. 1 Baylor 68, TCU 52: MaCio Teague scored 19 points with five three-pointers and the host Bears set a program record with their 18th win in a row.

Teague made consecutive three-pointers in a 36-second span to cap a 14-0 run in the first half that put the Bears (19-1, 8-0 Big 12) ahead to stay.

No. 2 Gonzaga 83, San Francisco 79: Corey Kispert's three-point play with 1:33 left put his team ahead for good and he added a jumper with 34 seconds remaining, helping the Bulldogs (23-1, 9-0 WCC) win on the road to extend their winning streak to 15 games.

No. 3 Kansas 78, Texas Tech 75: Devon Dotson scored 21 points and Marcus Garrett added

15 points for the host Jayhawks (18-3, 7-1 Big 12).

TJ Hollyfield led the Red Raiders (13-8, 4-4) with 19 points.

No. 4 San Diego State 80, Utah State 68: With Kawhi Leonard watching from one baseline, Matt Mitchell scored 24 of his season-high 28 points in the second half — including three straight three-pointers — to help rally the host Aztecs.

San Diego State (23-0, 12-0 Mountain West) retired Leonard's jersey at halftime.

No. 5 Florida State 74, Virginia Tech 63: Devin Vassell tamed an ACC record by shooting 7-for-7 from three-point range and scored 27 points to lift the visiting Seminoles.

No. 6 Louisville 77, North Carolina State 57: Ryan McMahon made seven three-pointers and scored a season-high 23 points for the visiting Cardinals.

No. 7 Dayton 70, Fordham 56: Jordae Lander matched his season high with 18 points, Obi Toppin also had 18 and the host Flyers got its 16th straight win over the Rams.

No. 9 Duke 97, Syracuse 88: Vernon Carey Jr. had 26 points and a season-high 17 rebounds for the 10th double-double of his freshman season and the Blue Devils on the road.

Xavier 74, No. 10 Seton Hall 62: Tyrique Jones had 19 points and 18 rebounds, and the Musketeers opened a big lead early and ended the host Pirates' 10-game winning streak.

Stanford 70, No. 11 Oregon 60: Oscar da Silva scored a ca-

reer-high 27 points and had 15 rebounds, helping the host Cardinal rally in the second half to beat the Ducks.

No. 12 West Virginia 66, Kansas State 57: Derek Culver had 19 points and 14 rebounds to give coach Bob Huggins another milestone win. Huggins earned his 877th career win to move past Kentucky's Adolph Rupp into seventh place in Division I.

The Mountaineers (17-4, 5-3 Big 12) bounced back from a loss at Texas Tech on Wednesday, improved to 11-0 at home and ended a three-game losing streak to the Wildcats.

Wisconsin 64, No. 14 Michigan State 63: Nate Reuers scored 15 points, D'Mitrik Trice had 14 and Aleem Ford added 13 to help the host Badgers edge the Spartans.

Providence 65, No. 16 Butler 61: Luwane Pipkins scored 22 points and made six consecutive free throws in the final minute for the visiting Friars (12-10, 5-4 Big East), who snapped a three-game losing streak.

No. 20 Colorado 78, Southern California 57: Tyler Bey scored 16 points and the Buffaloes (17-5, 6-3 Pac-12) won on the road.

Cincinnati 64, No. 21 Houston 62: Keith Williams scored 10 of his 12 points in the second half and the host Bearcats rallied from a 15-point deficit in the second half.

No. 22 LSU 73, Mississippi 63: Javonte Smart scored 13 of his season-high 21 points in the last 16 minutes and the host Tigers (17-4, 8-0 Southeastern Con-



JULIE BENNETT/AP

Auburn forward Isaac Okoro, left, shoots past Kentucky forward Keion Brooks Jr. during the No. 17 Tigers' 75-66 defeat of the No. 13 Wildcats on Saturday in Auburn, Ala.

ference) extended their winning streak to 10 games.

Tulsa 54, No. 23 Wichita State 51: Elijah Joiner caught an inbound pass with 3.3 seconds left and raced from one key to the next, connecting on a three-pointer as time expired to give the host Hurricane a victory.

Hundreds of fans in the near-sellout crowd of 8,089 stormed the court in a wild celebration.

No. 24 Penn State 76, Nebraska 64: Myles Dread scored

14 points, Lamar Stevens and Myreon Jones had 13 apiece, and the visiting Nittany Lions (16-5, 4-4 Big Ten) State pulled away early in the second half.

Michigan 69, No. 25 Rutgers 63: Brandon Johns Jr. scored a career-high 20 points and the visiting Wolverines won at New York's Madison Square Garden for the 10th straight time. Jon Teske added 14 points as Michigan (13-8, 4-6 Big Ten) improved to 12-0 against the Scarlet Knights,

Creighton dominates Villanova

By AARON BRACY

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Creighton did what no other Big East team has been able to do in nearly two years — beat Villanova on its home court.

Denzel Mahoney had 21 points and Mitch Ballock had nine of his 15 points in the second half to help the Bluejays top the No. 8 Wildcats 76-61 on Saturday.

Ty-Shon Alexander added 16 points and Marcus Zegarowski scored 13 for Creighton (17-5, 6-3 Big East), which has won four in a row and avenged a 64-59 home defeat to Villanova on Jan. 7.

It was the Wildcats' first home loss in the Big East since St. John's defeated them on Feb. 7, 2018, snapping a 16-game home conference winning streak.



MATT SLOCUM/AP

Creighton's Christian Bishop, right, tries to get a shot past Villanova's Jermaine Samuels during the Bluejays' 76-61 win in Philadelphia on Saturday.

"I'm really proud of my team," Bluejays coach Greg McDermott said. "There's nobody we respect more than Villanova. It's a heck of a win for our program."

Collin Gillespie and Justin Moore each had 18 points for the Wildcats (17-4, 7-2), who had won seven in a row.

"Creighton deserves a lot of credit," Villanova coach Jay Wright said. "They came in here and played a better basketball game. We weren't that bad; they just played a better all-around game. They did a great job defensively, hit big shots and handled our pressure."

Service academies

Funk's career-high 33 lifts Army past Lehigh

Associated Press

BETHLEHEM, Pa. — Tommy Funk scored a career-high 33 points and Army held off Lehigh 80-79 on Saturday night for its sixth straight win.

Reed Fenton made a three-point and Nic Lynch added a pair of free throws during a 5-0 spurt for the Mountain Hawks that capped the scoring with 53 seconds left. Lehigh had the final possession with 15 seconds to play but missed two shots.

Funk made seven of nine three-pointers and had seven assists. Matt Wilson added 21 points and nine rebounds for the Black Knights (11-10, 6-4 Patriot League).

Lynch scored a career-best 25 points and had 13 rebounds to lead the Mountain Hawks (5-17, 2-8),

who have lost six in a row. Fenton had 18 points and Jordan Cohen added 13. Fenton made six of the Lehigh's 10 three-pointers.

Army shot 52% from the floor (30-for-58).

Loyola (Md.) 79, Navy 73: Andrew Kostecka had 21 points as the host Greyhounds snapped an eight-game losing streak.

Jaylin Andrews had 16 points for Loyola (10-13, 2-8 Patriot League). Isaiah Hart added 14 points and Santai Aldama scored 11. Kostecka hit 13 of 14 foul shots. He added seven rebounds.

The Midshipmen stayed within 10 points throughout the final 13 minutes, once closing the gap to three points — 70-67 — when Cam Davis hit a three-pointer with 1:42 remaining. Davis had 25 points and Evan Wieck scored 21 for Navy (12-9, 6-4).

AUSTRALIAN OPEN/HIGH SCHOOL



LEE JIN-MAN/AP

Novak Djokovic celebrates after defeating Dominic Thiem in the final of the Australian Open on Sunday.

Djokovic rallies for eighth Australian title, 17th Slam

By HOWARD FENDRICH
Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — Novak Djokovic was looking weary and worn down. He felt dizzy and trailed Dominic Thiem in the Australian Open final — muscles mounting, deficit growing.

Djokovic did what he does, though. He refused to lose, waited for a chance to pounce and found his best tennis when absolutely necessary. Even threw in a wrinkle, serve-and-volleying twice when facing break point.

Regaining his stamina and strokes, and showing some gutsy creativity, Djokovic came back to edge Thiem 6-4, 4-6, 2-6, 6-3, 6-4 Sunday night for an eighth Australian Open title, second in a row, and 17th Grand Slam trophy overall.

"I was on the brink of losing that match. ... I didn't feel that great," said Djokovic, who was seen multiple times by a doctor.

"My energy," he explained, "completely collapsed."

Nonetheless, Djokovic improved his combined record in semifinals and finals at Melbourne Park to 16-0 and assured himself of returning to No. 1 in the rankings, replacing Rafael Nadal.

No other man in the history of tennis has won this hard-court tournament more than six times. Only Roger Federer, with 20, and Nadal, with 19, have won more men's Grand Slam singles trophies than Djokovic.

"Amazing achievement. Unreal what you're doing throughout all these years," said the fifth-seeded Thiem, who is 0-3 in major finals. "You and also two other guys, I think you brought men's tennis to a complete new level."

Both finalists spoke about the devastating wildfires that have killed dozens of people and millions of animals around Australia. Djokovic also mentioned the recent deaths of NBA star Kobe Bryant and one of his daughters in a helicopter crash.

Addressing Thiem, Djokovic said: "It wasn't meant to be tonight. Tough luck. ... You were very close to win it and you definitely have a lot more time in your career. I am sure you will definitely get one of the Grand Slam trophies. More than one."

A little more than six months after saving a pair of championship points against Federer en route to winning a five-set Wimbledon final, Djokovic again

showed that he can't ever be counted out.

It did not come easily this time for Djokovic, a 32-year-old from Serbia. He lost six games in a row in one stretch to Thiem, who plays a similar baseline game and eliminated Nadal in the quarterfinals.

Djokovic was down two sets to one. He was visited by a doctor and trainer in the third set and, desperate to hydrate, guzzled bottles of water and energy drink. He lectured the chair umpire about time violations.

This was not the dominant Djokovic who made a hard-to-believe total of nine unforced errors during his straight-set triumph over Nadal in the final a year ago. Djokovic eclipsed that total in the first set alone Sunday and finished with 57.

It was a physical test offering plenty of entertaining exchanges, with 61 points lasting at least nine shots apiece.

"Very demanding," Thiem said.

"Of course," he said, "I just feel a lot of emptiness right now."

At two key moments, Djokovic abandoned his usual grind-points-out script and went on the attack, rushing to the net after a serve when facing a break point — first, at 2-1 in the fourth set, then again at 2-1 in the fifth.

Paid off both times.

"Not characteristic of me," Djokovic said. "Kind of all-or-nothing."

Suddenly making a charge as his less-experienced foe faltered, Djokovic broke to lead 5-3 in the fourth set, helped by a sloppy volley into the net tape, a double-fault and a bad forehand by Thiem.

Eventually, Djokovic would get to clutch the silver Australian Open trophy he also won in 2008, 2011-13, 2015-16 and 2019.

He adds that haul to his five titles from Wimbledon, three from the U.S. Open and one from the French Open.

Thiem, an Austrian who is 26, was the runner-up to Nadal at Roland Garros each of the past two years and was again trying to become the first man born in the 1990s to win a major singles title.

Instead, the Big Three have won 13 consecutive Slams and 56 of the last 67.

"It's unique in sports history that the three best players — by far — are playing in the same era," Thiem said. "That's what makes it very, very difficult for other players to break through."

DODEA Europe marksmanship

Panthers' depth tops Ploechinger's title

By GREGORY BROOME
Stars and Stripes

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — The formula that carried Stuttgart to DODEA Europe's most dominant championship streak served it well again.

The Panthers and their perennially unparalleled depth claimed a seventh straight European marksmanship title Saturday at Kaiserslautern High School, overcoming a host Raiders team helmed by a familiar face.

Isabella Ploechinger, a former member of Stuttgart's dynasty and now Kaiserslautern's senior captain, claimed the top individual prize with a score of 580 points, three ahead of defending champion Maria Tortorelli of Stuttgart and Raiders teammate Juliana Hosey.

Ploechinger said she was initially thrown off by the championship event's schedule, which she said was rushed compared to the average regular-season meet. But by the end of the standing portion, the second of the meet's three shooting portions, Ploechinger was fully adjusted and on her way to victory.

"I was finally relaxed and used to it," said Ploechinger, who recorded a meet-high 192 points from the challenging standing position. "I was like, 'You know what, whatever happens happens. There's no use panicking about it.'

The win brings an end to a storied DODEA Europe marksmanship career for Ploechinger, who split her four high-school years between the Panthers and Raiders. The senior was already en-

trenched among the sport's top performers as a sophomore and has spent the following years making incremental improvements.

"I'm pretty happy with it. I'm satisfied," Ploechinger said of her prep career. "I think I've progressed into a good, stable position where I am now."

Ploechinger's winning score wasn't quite enough to topple her former team. Stuttgart boasts a program so deep that its junior varsity group famously ranks as the second-best team in DODEA Europe, producing a level of internal competition that is at least as intense as anything the Panthers see on a Saturday, even the final Saturday of the season.

Tortorelli summarized the dynamic of simultaneous competition and cooperation.

"It pushes us to do our best and stay on varsity," Tortorelli said. "We work together to help the others to do their best."

Stuttgart executed that strategy to perfection Saturday as freshman Kate Swett helped the Panthers secure the victory. Swett, shooting in the day's third and final wave of competitors and with the team outcome still in doubt, turned in a score of 569 that earned her eighth place individually and clinched the Panthers' latest triumph.

The Panthers' roster of returning and improving talent makes another championship a strong possibility next year, even in the absence of departing head coach Raul Pinon, who plans to continue his marksmanship coaching career stateside.

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NBA

Roundup

Blazers' Lillard lights up Jazz in win

Portland guard has 6th straight game with at least 6 three-pointers in 51-point effort

Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. — Damian Lillard's hot streak continued with 51 points, including nine three-pointers, and 12 assists, and the Portland Trail Blazers defeated the Utah Jazz 124-107 on Saturday.

It was Lillard's NBA-record sixth straight game with at least six three-pointers.

Lillard has scored 40 or more points in five of his last six games, averaging 48.8 points over the span. It was his fourth straight double-double, a career best.

Hassan Whiteside added 17 points and 21 rebounds for the Blazers, who won their fourth straight to match their season high. Donovan Mitchell led the Jazz with 25 points.

Clippers 118, Timberwolves 106: Kawhi Leonard scored 31 points, his ninth straight game with at least that many, and the host Clippers beat the Timberwolves.

Karl-Anthony Towns countered with 32 points and 12 rebounds for Minnesota, his fourth consecutive game with 30 or more points, but it wasn't enough to keep his team from losing its 11th in a row, matching the team's skid from December.

Paul George added 21 points in 26 minutes and Lou Williams had 17 for Los Angeles, which has won seven of nine.

Lakers 129, Kings 113: LeBron James had another triple-double despite an off-night shooting, Anthony Davis scored 21 points and Max Kleber 18 as host Dallas beat Atlanta in a game between teams with depleted rosters.

Bronson scored 19 points in the first half, nearly surpassing his previous season high of 21. He scored 13 in the second quarter as the Mavericks took control. Finney-Smith matched his season best.

Dallas was missing its top two scorers, Luka Doncic (sprained right ankle) and Kristaps Porzingis (recovering from a left knee injury), for the first time in the same game.

Avery Bradley added 19 points, Kentavious Caldwell-Pope scored 15 and Rajon Rondo had 13 points and eight assists.

Nets' Irving injures knee in loss to Wizards

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Kyrie Irving limped off the court after hurting his right knee, his latest injury coming just 24 hours after his best performance of the season.

A night after scoring a season-high 54 points, Irving was forced to leave in the fourth quarter of the Brooklyn Nets' 113-107 loss to the Washington Wizards on Saturday.

Irving, who missed nearly two months with a shoulder injury earlier in his first season with the Nets, has a history of injuries to his left knee. This mishap occurred with 5:31 remaining in the fourth quarter as he and the

Wizards' Bradley Beal got tangled up on a held ball.

Irving was on the floor for several minutes, holding his right knee. After coming to his feet and remaining on the court for a jump ball — in which he didn't jump — Irving left the floor with a sprained right knee and a season-low 11 points.

"He'll get an MRI on Sunday. X-rays were negative."

"I've done some pretty decent things to my knee in the past," Irving said. "Just want to make sure my ACL, my MCL, and my PCL, just make sure that our medical staff did their check. The most important thing was just my

ACL making sure it was fine. But it was just a weird, weird, weird, weird fall. Just felt a lot of stretching and tension afterwards and just a bad fall."

Irving said the injury was freakish. "Brad's momentum just carried him underneath me," Irving said.

Irving was just 5-for-12 from the field. "We did a good job with our game plan of making Kyrie a little frustrated, blitzing him," Beal said. "Kind of getting the ball out of his hands."

Irving missed Sunday's game against the Knicks after learning of Kobe Bryant's death.

Scoreboard

Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division					
Toronto	35	14	714	—	GB
Boston	33	15	688	1/2	
Philadelphia	34	15	687	4%	
Brooklyn	21	27	438	13%	
New York	14	36	280	21%	

Southeast Division					
Miami	33	15	688	—	
Orlando	31	28	429	12%	
Washington	31	33	327	16%	
Charlotte	16	37	240	25%	
Atlanta	13	37	260	21%	

Central Division					
Milwaukee	41	7	854	—	
Indiana	30	18	633	10%	
Chicago	30	20	629	13%	
Detroit	17	33	340	25%	
Cleveland	13	37	260	29%	

Western Conference**Southwest Division**

Southwest Division					
Houston	30	18	625	—	
Dallas	34	15	694	2%	
Memphis	24	25	499	6%	
San Antonio	22	26	458	8%	
New Orleans	34	31	468	10%	

Northwest Division

Northwest Division					
Denver	34	15	694	—	
Utah	30	20	609	4%	
Oklahoma City	23	27	460	11%	
Portland	13	31	313	18%	

Pacific Division

Pacific Division					
Toronto	31	15	771	—	
Brooklyn	13	31	118	2%	
Houston	128	Dallas	121		
New Orleans	33	Memphis	111		
Golden State	12	115	115		
Oklahoma City	111	Phoenix	107		
Portland	127	L.A. Lakers	119		
L.A. Clippers	118	Minnesota	106		
Golden State	102	Riverside	102		
Phoenix	113	Dallas	107		
Golden State	131	Cleveland	112		
Boston	116	Philadelphia	95		
Los Angeles	129	Charlotte	90		
Portland	124	Utah	107		

Friday's games

Friday's games					
Toronto	15	Detroit	18		
Brooklyn	133	Philadelphia	118		
Houston	128	Dallas	121		
New Orleans	33	Memphis	111		
Golden State	12	115	115		
Oklahoma City	111	Phoenix	107		
Portland	127	L.A. Lakers	119		
L.A. Clippers	118	Minnesota	106		
Golden State	102	Riverside	102		
Phoenix	113	Dallas	107		
Golden State	131	Cleveland	112		
Boston	116	Philadelphia	95		
Los Angeles	129	Charlotte	90		
Portland	124	Utah	107		

Saturday's games

Saturday's games					
Dallas	31	27	404	10%	
Golden State	12	Washington	107		
New York	15	Philadelphia	107		
Oklahoma City	11	Portland	107		
Philadelphia	12	Atlanta	107		
Philadelphia	14	Miami	107		
Phoenix	14	Phoenix	107		
Minnesota	12	Sacramento	107		
San Antonio	13	Los Angeles	107		

Tuesday's games

Tuesday's games					
Milwaukee	15	New Orleans	107		
Orlando	17	Houston	107		
Phoenix	14	Phoenix	107		
Portland	13	Portland	107		
San Antonio	13	L.A. Lakers	107		

Wednesday's games

Wednesday's games					
Dallas	31	27	404	10%	
Golden State	12	Washington	107		
New York	15	Philadelphia	107		
Oklahoma City	11	Portland	107		
Philadelphia	12	Atlanta	107		
Philadelphia	14	Miami	107		
Phoenix	14	Phoenix	107		
Minnesota	12	Sacramento	107		
San Antonio	13	L.A. Lakers	107		

Monday's games

Monday's games					
Harden, HOU	45	462	140	194	55%
Antetokounmpo, MIL	44	462	130	130	30%
Young, ATL	44	407	330	125	29.4%
Beal, WAS	40	389	267	1145	28.7%
Leonard, LAC	36	346	223	397	27.4%
DeRozan, TOR	36	391	260	117	27.1%
Davis, LAL	40	371	262	1069	26.7%
Westbrook, HOU	41	416	213	1085	26.5%
Lawrence, CHA	51	443	239	1279	25.2%
Ingram, NOP	47	344	236	1094	24.9%
McCollum, POR	49	387	143	1040	24.6%
Drummond, DET	38	337	146	905	23.8%
Walker, BOS	39	311	160	907	23.7%
McCollum, POR	43	357	176	917	21.6%
Adebayo, MIA	37	319	169	889	10.4%
Thompson, CLE	47	195	293	488	10.4%
Valanciunas, LAL	47	327	146	336	10.1%

Assists

Assists					
James, LAL	44	406	9.2		
Young, ATL	44	359	8.7		
Rubio, PHX	41	358	8.6		
DeRozan, TOR	44	359	8.3		
Simmons, PHI	47	368	7.8		
Granger, CHA	41	353	7.4		
Westbrook, HOU	44	340	7.4		
Brookings, BRD	34	325	7.3		
Lowry, TOR	38	277	7.3		

FG Percentage

FG Percentage					
Gordon, UTA	204	460	49.2		
Hollies, SAC	205	399	50.6%		
Alex, POR	208	386	60.6%		
Clarke, NOU	214	342	62.6%		



STEVE DYKES/AP

NFL

Safeties 1st: Polamalu, Atwater lead class

James, Hutchinson, Bruce also elected Saturday into Pro Football Hall of Fame

BY EDDIE PELLS
Associated Press

MIAMI — He grew his hair so long, it flowed out of his helmet and obscured the name on the back of his jersey.

Didn't matter. Everyone knew where to find Troy Polamalu on the field.

The Steelers great earned a spot in the Pro Football Hall of Fame along with another hard-hitting safety, Steve Atwater of Denver. Also voted in Saturday were receiver Isaac Bruce, running back Edgerrin James and guard Steve Hutchinson.

Polamalu said he went six or seven years, maybe longer, without cutting his hair during the prime of a career that lasted from 2003-14.

But as much as for the hair, he earned the nickname "Tasmanian Devil" for how he changed the way people thought about the safety position. Compact and fleet at 5-foot-10 and 200 pounds, Polamalu bolted around the field, and made plays from practically anywhere. No quarterback, runner or receiver was safe.

Selected in his first year of eligibility, Polamalu was a four-time All-Pro, was voted to eight Pro Bowls and finished with two Super Bowl rings in three trips. His rambling, cross-the-field fourth-quarter pick-six against Joe Flacco in the 2008 AFC title game cemented the win and was a highlight of what might have been his best season; he had seven interceptions that year and the Steelers won the Super Bowl.

Polamalu will go in the same year as Pittsburgh coach Bill Cowher and defensive back Donnie Shell, each of whom were voted in as part of the hall's special centennial class designed to celebrate the NFL's 100th year.

"It's a huge blessing to go in with Coach Cowher and a tremendous honor to go in with Donnie Shell because the Steelers' defenses in the '70s laid our foundation," Polamalu said.

Though game-changing safeties were nothing new to the league, Polamalu could line up near the linebackers, or the defensive linemen, or deep in the backfield, and wreck a game plan from any of those



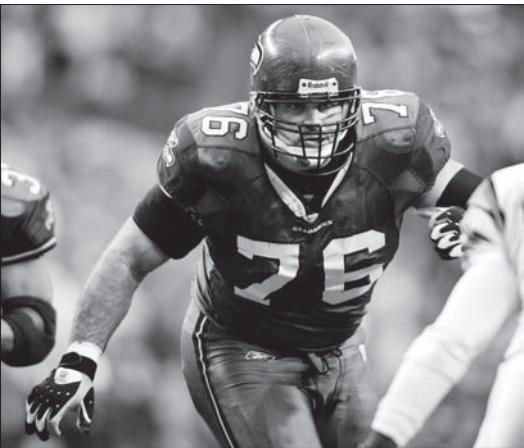
BARRY SWEET/AP

Safety Steve Atwater, right, shown in 2006 with the Denver Broncos, was a two-time All-Pro and won two Super Bowls.



TOM GANNAN/AP

St. Louis Rams, wide receiver Isaac Bruce, shown in 2006, had the second-most receiving yards when he retired in 2009.



JOHN FROSCHAUER/AP

Offensive guard Steve Hutchinson, shown in 2006, was a five-time All-Pro player who played for three teams in a 12-year career.

sports.

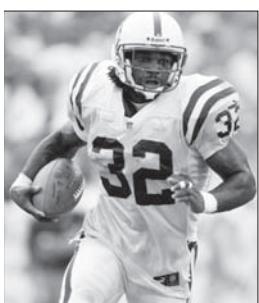
"He's waking people up to the impact a safety can have in today's game," another safety, John Lynch, was in an interview while Polamalu was in his prime.

Lynch, in Miami this week for the Super Bowl as GM of the 49ers, was also among the 15 finalists whose resumes were debated and discussed throughout the day by the panel of four dozen voters. But he did not make the cut. Neither did Tony Bosselli, the dominant Jaguars offensive lineman whose career lasted only 91 games because of shoulder injuries. The Jaguars are still without a player in the hall.

An offensive lineman did make it, though. It was Steve Hutchinson, who played guard for the Seahawks, Vikings and Titans over a 12-year career. He'd been a finalist in all three years since becoming eligible and broke through in this, a class that didn't include any slam dunks — or a single quarterback among the list of finalists.

"I've written the speech the past few years in the shower and it'll really be about the people who helped me get here," Hutchinson said.

Atwater made it — in his 16th year of eligibility, no less, — and became the first



ED ZURGA/AP

Running back Edgerrin James, shown in 2000 with the Indianapolis Colts, finished with more than 3,300 yards receiving and more than 12,000 yards rushing and two NFL rushing titles.

homegrown Broncos defender to join the hall.

Atwater said when he got the much-anticipated knock on his hotel door "it was pretty obvious it wasn't the maid so I was pretty excited. I'm extremely honored to go in with all these men."

A two-time All-Pro who won two Super Bowls, Atwater prowled the backfield and delivered vicious hits to anyone coming across. One irony of Atwater's late-recognized greatness is that many of his whiplash-inducing hits would be illegal in today's NFL.

Though receivers were mostly at risk, it was his shoulder-to-shoulder disintegration of 250-pound Chiefs running back Christian Okoye, "The Nigerian Nightmare," while mid'd up on "Monday Night Football" in 1990 that truly put Atwater on the map.

James was a bastion of versatility and durability. A flashy first-round draft pick out of Miami, James made a name for himself with his ability to carve out room on the ground while playing in Peyton Manning's offense with the Colts from 1999-2005.

James also played three seasons with the Cardinals and a half-year with the

Seahawks.

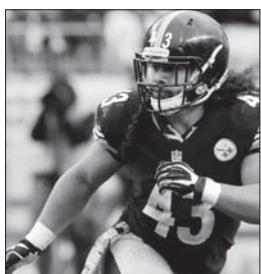
"Started With Gold Teeth, Ended With a Gold Jacket," James posted on social media after receiving the word.

James finished with more than 3,300 yards receiving and more than 12,000 yards rushing. He won the NFL rushing title in 1999 and 2000, no small thing given Manning was revving up his career at the time. James joins Colts wideout Marvin Harrison in the hall, which will give Manning more company next year when he'll be a shoo-in to join them on his first ballot.

Bruce was a headliner in "The Greatest Show on Turf," the pass-happy attack run by Hall of Fame quarterback Kurt Warner when the Rams were in St. Louis. This was Bruce's sixth season of eligibility and his fourth time as a finalist.

His 15,208 yards receiving over 16 seasons were second in the NFL record book when he retired in 2009. But he was never selected an All-Pro, and some critics dismissed his stats as being more a sign of his longevity and the passing era he played in than any mark of true greatness.

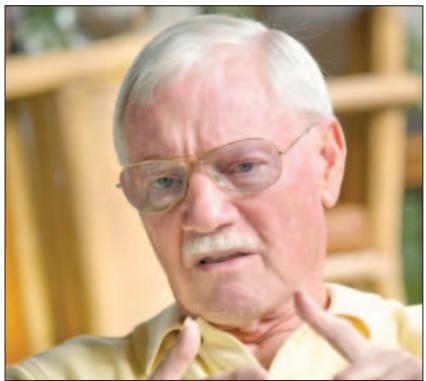
There were no seniors announced Saturday, as they were folded into the centennial class. Others going in with that class, which was announced last month: Harold Carmichael, Alex Karras, Jim Covert, Bobby Dillon, Cliff Harris, Winston Hill, Duke Slater, Mac Speedie, Ed Sprinkle, along with coaches Cowher and Jimmy Johnson, NFL commissioner Paul Tagliabue, the late NFL Films exec Steve Sabol and longtime GM George Young.



GENE J. PUSKAR/AP

Shown in 2013, Pittsburgh Steelers safety Troy Polamalu was a four-time All-Pro, was voted to eight Pro Bowls and finished with two Super Bowl titles.

NFL



DEVON RAVINE, NORTHWEST FLORIDA DAILY NEWS/AP

In this undated photo, Ed Hubbard, of Fort Walton Beach, Fla., talks about what it was like to be a prisoner of war at the infamous Hanoi Hilton prison during the Vietnam War. With a special invitation from Commissioner Roger Goodell, the 81-year-old Chiefs fan was in Hard Rock Stadium on Sunday night to see Kansas City take on the San Francisco 49ers in its first Super Bowl appearance in 50 years.

Chiefs fan goes from POW to VIP

After missing Kasas City's 1970 Super Bowl victory, Vietnam veteran to be honored guest

By DAVE SKRETTA
Associated Press

MIAMI — Edward Lee Hubbard had no idea his beloved Kansas City Chiefs were playing in the Super Bowl the previous time they made it to the big stage, nor did he learn that they had won the 1970 championship until three years after the fact.

Hubbard instead was a prisoner of war in a 6-by-6 prison cell.

The Kansas City, Mo., native had been flying a mission over North Vietnam when he was shot down by two surface-to-air missiles. After running through the jungle for a number of hours, the first lieutenant was captured by Viet Cong soldiers and was held in a prison camp, where he subsisted on 300 calories a day for what wound up being 2,420 days.

When NFL officials heard his story, they decided to make sure Hubbard wouldn't miss the Chiefs in their return. So with a special invitation from Commissioner Roger Goodell, the 81-year-old Hubbard was in Hard Rock Stadium on Sunday night to watch Kansas City play the San Francisco 49ers in its first Super Bowl appearance in 50 years.

"We are inspired by your story and service and sacrifice," Goodell told him in a video. "I read all about what you went through, the 6½ years is incredible, and we just don't want you to miss the Kansas City Chiefs playing in the next Super Bowl. We would like you to be here so you

can see it live."

With a big smile, Hubbard replied: "It would be the greatest day of my life."

He's had plenty of good ones since that fateful July day in 1966.

Hubbard joined the Air Force Reserves in 1955 at the age of 17. Six years later, Hubbard went on active duty and entered the aviation program at James Connally Air Force Base in Texas, where he was commissioned and received his wings.

He had flown 25 missions during the Vietnam War without a major incident. It was the 26th that changed his life.

When he was finally released on March 4, 1973, along with many others from his camp, Hubbard returned home to Kansas City. He learned the Chiefs had won the Super Bowl after the 1969 season, and then-coach Hank Stram even gave him a tour of the stadium, which had broken ground in 1968 and opened the previous year.

"When I got home that evening," Hubbard told Goodell, "my son was asking me — he was only 10 years old. And he asked, 'Who did you meet today?' And I said Curley Culp, Otto Taylor, all the great ones. My son knew all of those guys."

Hubbard remained in the Air Force until 1990, when he retired to Fort Walton Beach on the Florida Panhandle with the rank of colonel.

But on Sunday night, he was in Miami for the Super Bowl.

Unanimous: Ravens were big winners

FROM BACK PAGE

Brady was also an unanimous MVP in 2010. And like Brady, Jackson's special season did not include a championship.

"I'm still young," Jackson said. "I've still got a lot of work to do. I'm not really trying to dwell on what I just did. If I win a Super Bowl, you'll probably see a lot more emotion."

The Ravens were big winners at NFL Honors on Saturday. John Harbaugh won coaching honors, and his offensive coordinator, Greg Roman, took best assistant coach honors.

Tennessee Titans quarterback Ryan Tannehill won Comeback Player of the Year by one vote over the 49ers' Jimmy Garoppolo, while New Orleans Saints

wide receiver Michael Thomas took top offensive player honors, while New England's Stephon Gilmore grabbed the defensive player award.

Rookie honors went to 49ers edge rusher Nick Bosa and Cardinals quarterback Kyler Murray, the top overall pick in last April's draft.

Edge rusher Calais Campbell of the Jacksonville Jaguars won the Walter Payton Man of the Year Award.

Thomas is only the second wide receiver to win Offensive Player of the Year. He is in good company: The other receiver to take the honor was Hall of Famer Jerry Rice in 1987 and 1993.

While Rice holds virtually all of the significant NFL receiving records, Thomas has one that made a huge difference with the voters: Thomas caught a league-record 149 passes for 1,725 yards and nine touchdowns. He also played five games without regular quarterback Drew Brees, yet made 42 catches in those outings.

"It was just consistency and following our leader, Drew Brees. He's been a tremendous example for everyone across the league," Thomas said. "I don't take that for granted. I take notes on how he prepares.... Honestly, it's hard for me to even pat myself on the back without patting the people around me on the back, because they've helped me tremendously."

Gilmore is the first cornerback in a decade to win Defensive Player of the Year.

Considered one of the game's best cover cornerbacks, the All-Pro made his eighth pro season his best with a career-high six interceptions that tied for the NFL lead. Gilmore was a key member of the league's stingiest defense in 2019; New England allowed 225 points in winning an 11 straight AFC East title.

"Each and every week, I feel like I'm going against the best receivers every game, and I was able to shut them down as much as I can," Gilmore explained.

"To get this point, it's special."

Tannehill noted that being named the comeback player is a mixed blessing.

"It's an honor you never want to be up for, but it's an honor to be recognized, and you had to overcome a lot of adversity," he said.

"To get this point, it's special."



Tannehill



AP photos



Above: Baltimore Ravens quarterback Lamar Jackson speaks after winning the AP Most Valuable Player award on Saturday in Miami. Left: Associated Press 2019 NFL Defensive Player of the Year, cornerback Stephon Gilmore of the New England Patriots.

Bosa, the second overall draft choice behind Murray, was such a force on the edge of the 49ers' line that he even received votes for the All-Pro team at a very competitive position.

Bosa's nine sacks were the fourth most for a 49ers rookie. He was third in the NFL with 68 pressures, according to SportsInfo Solutions, trailing only Cameron Jordan and Danielle Hunter, and his 16 tackles for loss tied him for fifth in the league.

Murray joined other No. 1 overall selections such as Earl Campbell and Cam Newton as offensive rookie winner. The fast, elusive and creative quarterback is the sixth man to do that double; Newton is the most recent, in 2011, one year after Sam Bradford did it. The others were running backs Campbell (1978), Billy Sims (1980) and George Rogers (1981).

Murray started all 16 games, going 5-10 with 20 touchdown passes and 12 interceptions. He ran for 544 yards and four more scores.

"I think everybody sets out with individual goals and I knew if I played well enough — that's not obviously the goal — but it was to do my part on the field," Murray said.

"Lead my guys to wins and try to play as best as I can while being in the position to do so, and I had a lot of help around me."

SPORTS

NFL

No doubt about it

Ravens QB Jackson unanimous choice for Most Valuable Player

BY BARRY WILNER
Associated Press

Lamar Jackson's stunning season not only earned him The Associated Press NFL Most Valuable Player Award, but he won it unanimously.

That's right. The second-year quarterback of the Baltimore Ravens joins Tom Brady as the only players to receive every vote for MVP.

Jackson drew all 50 votes from a nationwide panel of media members who regularly cover the league. Baltimore's All-Pro set an NFL record for yards rushing by a quarterback (1,206) and led an offense that compiled more yards on the ground (3,296) than any in league history. The Ravens won their final 12 games of the regular season to finish at 14-2, the league's best mark.

Jackson had a powerful message for kids who have been told they should change positions on the field and who face criticism and doubters.

"Make those people eat their words," he said. "It feels good when you can make those people eat their words because they're so negative. How are you going to wake up and be so negative about somebody who's not negative toward you or don't do anything wrong? Don't worry about what they say. Do you. Stay focused because you want to be great, and you're going to be great. Just do you."

SEE UNANIMOUS ON PAGE 23

Hall of Fame:

- Safeties Polamalu, Atwater headed to Canton with G Hutchinson, WR Bruce, RB James,

Page 22



Djokovic rallies to 17th Slam

Top-seed outlasts No. 5 Thiem to win record 8th Aussie Open title » Page 19



LIONEL HAHN, ABACA PRESS/TNS

Ravens quarterback Lamar Jackson, pictured, joined New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady (2010) as the only players to be unanimously voted the Associated Press NFL Most Valuable Player.

Lillard hits nine three-pointers, Blazers win » Page 20

